

PENNY-WISE

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INTRODUCTION BY THE EDITOR: HEALTHY MARKETS

Harry E. Salyards

Reading a report in *Coin World* about the paper money portion of Stack's recent Philadelphia Americana Sale, I was struck by the following statement: "Also significant was the elevated level of interest in all type notes in the less than \$5000 range, indicative of dealers trying to refresh and replenish inventory, as well as a good level of activity among Internet buyers looking for well-described, third party-graded material."

Let's break that statement down into its components. First off, substitute *your* chief collecting interest for the words "type notes" — half cents, middle date large cents, large diameter Bust quarters, *whatever*. Then look at the focus of market interest: in material costing less than \$5000. I would submit that that is the ultimate sign of a healthy market: a *broad-based one*. The million dollar sales get all the ink; but 200 people spending \$5000, or—to bring it down to a more comfortable level for most of us — 2000 people spending \$500, is a healthier indicator for the future of collecting — in *any* area.

Now, who are the buyers? Dealers replenishing inventory — which they would have no need for doing if their inventories weren't turning over — and *Internet buyers*. Consider the latter, and how far we've come over the past 40 years. When I returned to collecting in 1974, after an eight year hiatus, auction catalogs sometimes came with those lightweight, red-and-blue-trapezoid-bordered AIR MAIL envelopes, to better the chances of your mail bid getting there in time. (And they still sometimes didn't.) Most lots were unillustrated, and the ones that were, were generally presented as smudgy, unenlarged, black-and-white half-tones. Now, in our digital, full-color age, you really *can* get a reasonable look at what you might like to bid on, right there on your desktop screen (which is *not* to gainsay the still-critical role of a pair of trained eyes examining the lot in person, before you spend *really big bucks*). Indeed, Dave Bowers has told me that it's not uncommon for a major auction to proceed before a half-empty room, these days, while prospective buyers who *have* personally examined their lots of interest, are back in their hotel rooms bidding via computer!

Finally, there are those words, "well-described, third party-graded material." That would generally be taken to mean *slabbed* material; but that is *not* the only potential meaning. See, for example, the adventure recounted by new contributor Jack Young, in this issue of *Penny-Wise*. "Third-party" *need* mean only someone *without a financial interest* in any potential transaction. In other words, expert advice — including expert advice willing "to think outside the box," as Bob Grellman so soundly put it to Jack Young. Or think of the slab itself as "the box": a box which we *must* think outside of, extracting the image of the coin in our own minds, by our own grading standards, from the *label* reading "AU-58," as in a certain revelatory grading exercise on a Sheldon-71, presented in this month's "From the Internet" column.

A wide collector base, of carefully described and illustrated material, at least *ideally* examined with an independent eye: factors which serve to define a healthy collectibles market.

* * * * *

MEN AT WORK – THE MINT IN 1793

Bill Eckberg

According to Chief Coiner Henry Voigt's daily account ledger (1), the following men were employed under him between early April and the middle of September, 1793: Jacob Bay (through August 13th), Thomas Flude, Daniel Gerard, Frederick Guyer (beginning August 13th), Lewis Lamange, Patrick Ryon, John Schreiner, Nicholas Sinderling, Mathias Summers, John Ward, William Ward (employed irregularly), Thomas Warwick, John York (through April 13th) and Jonathan Zolinger. Records of pay received for each man for all Saturdays from April 6th - August 31st were examined; records of who did what from April 3rd - September 18th were examined. No earlier records have been located, though Voigt produced an earlier ledger, now lost, and information as to who did what is extremely limited from July 26th - September 19th when the Mint closed because of the yellow fever outbreak.

Labor in the Chief Coiner's department cost an average of \$60.36 per week for the period. We can tell from Voigt's ledger that the men were paid a daily wage and worked a 6-day week. Saturday was payday, and each man was paid for the week ending the previous Saturday. The Mint was closed on Sundays and also on July 4th, which was a holiday even then; it was not, however, a paid holiday in 1793. If a man worked less than a full day he received a proportion of his daily wage; if he worked overtime, he was paid proportionally more. Night work received extra pay as well. There were several times when men worked at night, usually in pairs.

Different men received different wages. Warwick and York were the highest paid at the princely sum of 150¢ a day. Weekly pay was reckoned in dollars and cents¹, but the wage for Guyer, the only person hired during the period for which we have records, is listed as 100¢, not \$1.00 per day, so I am following that convention. John Ward was next at 110¢. Bay, Flude, Guyer, Ryon and Sinderling each earned 100¢. Gerard earned 90¢, followed by Lamange at 83¢ and William Ward at 80¢. The lowest paid were Summers and Zolinger at 67¢ a day.

The wages paid to these men from April 6th - August 31st totaled \$1,327.11. Voigt received a salary of \$1,500 *per annum*. The Director and other officers of the Mint also received salaries; engravers had to be paid for their work², *etc.*, so the real cost of work in the Mint was much greater. This does not include the cost of the copper, which by itself approached the value of the coins produced. What did the United States Congress and taxpayers get for this labor? \$633.53 worth of Wreath cents, \$110.56 in Liberty Cap cents and \$176.67 in half cents, or a total output valued at \$920.76 for the period. (The Chains amounted to \$361.03, so the output for the whole

¹ Since the Mint did not begin to strike silver coins until 1794, their pay must have been in Spanish Milled Dollars, other foreign silver or heavy loads of cents and half cents. Breen (4) writes of Mint workers being paid in copper coins, but can you imagine being paid 600 large cents of the period, the average for a week's work? That would be over 17.8 pounds of coins to carry away!

² Joseph Wright at the least must have been paid for producing the Liberty Cap cent obverse, though no evidence of his being paid for engraving coinage dies in 1793 has ever been found. Voigt apparently engraved the Chain dies, presumably without extra compensation. The engravers of the Wreaths and half cents are not known but may have been Mint personnel paid for other work. Voigt's ledger does not record anyone forging the dies, but it does indicate that Flude spent time refining steel, so some of the labor to make dies has to be included in the wages paid to the men of the Coining Room.

year was \$1,281.09, far less than Voigt's salary, not to mention the workmen's wages and the other costs of doing business.) The government promised gold and silver depositors free coinage. That meant that for every dollar of metal deposited, whatever the form, the depositor was to receive a dollar in coin. The metal deposited had to be assayed, refined, cast into ingots, rolled into strip, blanks punched and edges milled, and the coins struck. Each of these activities resulted in loss of metal, all charged to the Mint. Obviously, the whole operation of the Mint was a major money-loser for the fledgling government!

Actual coining was a rare event in 1793. During the period for which we have detailed records, coining took place on only 20 days: 12 in April, 2 in May and 6 in July. I have previously reported which days half cents (coined by Flude and Gerard, 2) and Wreath (Bay with help from York, Flude and Gerard, 3) and Liberty Cap large cents (Flude and Gerard, 3) were coined. Most weeks no coins at all were produced.

What did the men in the Coining Room do for their wages? Sumers and Zolinger, the two lowest paid workmen, were listed each day only as "labourers" (*sic*). Their work was further specified on only one day – on April 26th they were described as "at foundation, leveling". One must presume that theirs was the least skilled labor in the shop. Interestingly, Sumers, along with Sinderling, was among the very first Mint employees. Their first job, July 19-22, 1792, was to tear down an existing still house on the Mint site.

We might expect that the men who did the actual coining were the most highly skilled, or at least the most highly paid. This is not the case. While York was, indeed, paid at the highest rate, he appears to have worked at the Mint only part-time and disappears from the record after April 13th. Was he on a temporary contract because of previous experience coining? Bay and Flude did much of the coining, and each earned the same wage (100¢ per day, the median for the workers at the Mint), but Gerard did more coining than Flude, and he was paid 10% less. It is well known that when Bay was not coining, he was cutting punches, presumably number and letter punches, but probably also punches for leaves and berries for the reverse dies, since this was his activity most days.

Flude must have been a blacksmith or a mechanic. Later Mint Director J. Ross Snowden, quoting the first and now-lost Voigt account book, states that Flude "began, after breakfast [on Friday, September 25, 1792] trimming the heavy press," so he was among very earliest employees. All work at the furnace, including its repair, involved him. He, sometimes with Gerard, was responsible for the casting the copper. He also spent most of one week refining steel, presumably for die production, and another day in April repairing the furnace. Flude and Gerard together did nearly all of the rolling and cleaning of copper strip and blanks. If they did so much skilled labor together, why might Gerard have been paid less than Flude? We can speculate that he may have been Flude's apprentice or assistant, though being an apprentice probably should have gotten him paid even less – equivalent, perhaps, to an unskilled laborer – unless the early Mint was less concerned with status in its workers than many other entities of the period.

William Ward, who was employed only irregularly, was a specialist. He was the man who operated the milling machine that put the edge devices on the half cent planchets and most of

those for the Wreaths³. His pay was well below average for the workmen, though; only the unskilled laborers earned less, so this work must have been considered to be rather lowly for the shop.

What of the others? Warwick must have had a position of responsibility. He was the first on the list, the highest paid (at 150¢ per day), and in the shop nearly every day through the 5½ month period, but that is how he was generally described – “in the shop.” (I will have more to say about what “in the shop” meant later in this contribution.) The exceptions are May 31st, when he, along with Lamange, Flude, Ryon and Gerard, are described as “at copper cutting and drawing.” June 1st the same group (minus Gerard) is described as “drawing copper,” and the 2nd as “cutting copper.” Presumably, “cutting” means blanking, or cutting planchets, though this is not certain.

Lamange, one of the lowest paid employees at 83¢ per day, spent June 13th rolling copper with the higher paid Flude. He then spent June 18th, 19th and 20th cutting cent blanks, apparently all of those that would be used for S11b and c and the Liberty Caps. Blanking, like edge milling, must have been a lowly job. Liberty Caps are nominally wider than Wreaths, but there is much overlap, and the difference may be due to greater striking pressure or the different characteristics of the dies. The “open collar” in which these coins were struck meant “no collar⁴.”

Of the jobs done by Schreiner (paid \$124.48 for his work during the period), Sinderling (paid \$114.10 for his efforts) and Guyer, we have no record.

Casting, rolling, drawing, cutting, milling, annealing, cleaning and even boiling copper are easy to understand, but some jobs are more difficult to interpret. To what, for example, might “at copper” refer? The term appears in reference to the activities of Flude and Gerard on June 5th and July 9th and 10th. The first date appears in the middle of a week in which the men were rolling and annealing copper; the July dates follow casting work on July 2nd and 3rd and precede coining beginning July 18th, all by the same men, suggesting that the term may refer to any kind of work with copper that is preparatory to coining.

What do Voigt’s entries indicating two or three men were coining mean? Did the number of men needed to work the press vary from day to day? Most contemporary and earlier references have one man feeding blanks into the press and 2-4 men operating the swing arms. We also read that this was very hard work requiring frequent rests and changes in crew. Was it possible that only two men operated the press for the whole day? We can’t be certain, but the following Mint records suggest otherwise. On Fryday (*sic*) April 5th, Bay and York are described as coining, but with York only working ½ day, which would leave Bay to work the press alone the other half day if only the two of them were operating it; on Wednesday April 10th, Bay, York and Gerard are described as coining, but York and Gerard for only one hour each, which would leave Bay alone at the press for most of the day. Unless some of the others listed as laborers or “in the

³ John Ward milled the Lettered Edge Wreaths; it is unknown if the two men were related, but this seems likely. There is no record of who milled the Liberty Cap Cents or when it was done, unless the blanks used for the Liberty Caps were milled along with those for the Lettered Edge Wreaths on June 13th (possibly) and 20th.

⁴ This was the unanimous view of the panel (J. Dannreuther, R. Doty, W. Eckberg, R.W. Julian, B. Karoleff, D. Mudd and C. Sholley) discussing the early use of the screw press at the 2010 ANA summer convention Numismatic Theatre presentation.

shop” were working the press with him, Bay would have to have fed blanks and swung the levers by himself for many hours. This may be possible (Craig Sholley, personal communication), but seems to me unlikely. Therefore, I suggest that the persons named in Voigt’s ledger were only those feeding the blanks; the men on the swing arms were not identified.

What were the men doing when they were “in the shop” as opposed to doing work directly related to coinage (*i.e.*, most of the time)? Other than Bay making punches and the laborers installing and leveling a furnace, there is no mention, but it’s not hard to guess. ***They were building a mint.*** They were erecting buildings and making and installing manufacturing equipment. Undoubtedly, some of them worked at carpentry, masonry and other building crafts. There was furniture to make, cabinets and shelving to make and install, vaults and furnaces to build, machinery to make and install, and much, much more. Voigt nominally superintended the coining room, but in 1793, he essentially oversaw the construction and furnishing of the first United States Mint.

Voigt’s entries become vague after the last half cents were coined on July 25th. There are no further entries that specify the work any of the men did, beyond Sumers and Zolinger still being laborers and Bay cutting punches on July 31st; interestingly, on many days Bay is on the roster, but not included in the list of those “in the shop” or as laborers. What was he doing? We know that Bay was disciplined twice for drunkenness that summer and died of yellow fever that September, but perhaps that was not the end of Bay’s legacy at the Mint. A John Bay, his son perhaps, was on the staff as a “Boy” in 1795 and as a Coiner in 1796-1797 (both at 66¢ a day).

The Coining Room workmen appear to have kept busy as indicated by several days in which men worked overtime during August, but no jobs are specified. By August 19th the yellow fever epidemic had claimed its first victim. Work continued, with the full complement of men paid on August 31st, the payday for the week including August 19th, but two weeks later, things were winding down. On Monday, September 16th, only Warwick, Schreiner, Lamange, Flude, Ryon, Guyer, Sumers and Zolinger remained on duty. Guyer was gone the next day, and Wednesday, the last day the Mint was open, saw only Warwick and Ryon in the shop for a whole day and Lamange for a half day.

Eventually, cold weather returned, the mosquitoes that carried yellow fever disappeared, and the government reopened. But there would be no more coinage until 1794. Workers left for various reasons. These were working-class men, and few records were kept of what they did beyond what is in Voigt’s ledger. By late 1795 only Schreiner (then Chief Pressman), Sinderling (annealer) and John Ward (miller, a job he did for the Lettered Edge coins in 1793) remained with the Coining Room staff. The others had already faded into history.

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1. Voigt, Henry. 1793. *Account Ledger*. Autographic.
2. Eckberg, William R. 2000. Who made the half cents of 1793? *Penny-Wise*, **34**:106.
3. Eckberg, William R. 2010. Coinage of the 1793 Wreath and Liberty Cap cents. *Penny-Wise*, **44**, 240.

* * * * *

DENTILATION ON 1794 LARGE CENTS
Part V
The Heads of '94 from Sheldon 30 to Sheldon 39

Chuck Heck

The 1794 Large Cents designated Sheldon 30 through 39 represent some the series most interesting die varieties. Three are common while seven are rare. One is the rarest of all 1794 Sheldon numbered varieties. Four of these ten come from the same controversial obverse die and one reverse die holds the record for fewest dentils of any 1794 die. Rarity, controversy, a record setter – the only thing missing is sex! Oh, I forgot! There is an obverse that was aptly named by Dr. Maris for Miss Liberty's striking beauty. He called it the "Venus Marina". What more could a collector ask for?

It seems appropriate for me to mention that some advance preparation might be needed. Yes, there is homework for this series. But interesting homework it is!

I was privileged to attend a seminar at EAC 2000 on "The 1794 Marred Field Cents" presented by Craig Sholley and Bill Noyes (and I believe Jon Lusk was at the computer and projector). Using the fabulous Noyes/Lusk Numi-Study technology, Craig and Bill showed convincing evidence that Sheldon 1794 Obverse dies #11, 12 and 17 were really one and the same die. So here is your assignment --- read the May 2000 article in *Penny-Wise* entitled "The 1794 Marred Field Cents" by Craig Sholley.¹ You will absolutely love this fine piece of numismatic research.

Before we begin, please remember my "shortcut terminology" – ILE for obverse dies and ILE2 for reverse dies will be used for "imaginary line through the center of the upright of E". Also, TOP will be used for "tip of the pole". You should also keep in mind that I numbered dentils in a counter clockwise direction following the route of the unit circle that we learned about in our high school geometry class.

Well, with all that said, let's take a tour of the dentilation on the Sheldon 30 series.

Sheldon 30 (11-H), Breen 12 (10-F)

Obverse 85 dentils: ILE does not intersect a dentil, so dentil 1 is totally left of ILE. Dentil 6 is above the upright of I. The upright of the 7 points between dentils 42 and 43. TOP points between dentils 54 and 55. Dentil 77 dots the left branch of the Y. (See photo)

Reverse 93 dentils: Same as Sheldon 29, Breen 11.



¹ Craig Sholley, "The 1794 Marred Field Cents," *PENNY-WISE* XXXIV: 3 (May 15, 2000): 118-121.

Sheldon 31 (12-I), Breen 13 (10-G)

Obverse 85 dentils: Same as Sheldon 30, Breen 12.

Sheldon did believe that this obverse die was very similar to his obverse 11 of Sheldon 30 yet he still designated a new number for it.² One should really take the time to read Sheldon's *Penny Whimsy* and the aforementioned article by Craig Sholley to get the full flavor of this intriguing issue. (See photo)

Reverse 84 dentils: Dentil 1 is totally left of ILE2. Dentil 3 dots the upright of T3, and dentil 18 practically dots the upright of D. Dentil 38 lies directly below the 1 of the denominator of the fraction. A3 is dotted by dentil 47 and the upright of E3 is dotted by dentil 59. A2 points directly between dentils 66 and 67.



Sheldon 32 (13-J), Breen 18 (12-K)

This particular obverse die was appropriately named “Venus Marina” by Dr. Edward Maris³ because of the striking beauty of Miss Liberty. I could not agree more. This is my favorite obverse for that very same reason.

Obverse 92 dentils: ILE intersects the very far right side of dentil 1. Dentil 7 perfectly dots the I. Dentils 8, 9 and 10 are where rim crumbling starts, eventually becoming a small but significant cud covering all three of those dentils and just touching dentil 11. Dentil 43 lies directly below the 1 of the date. The upright of the 7 points to dentil 46. TOP points between dentil 59 and 60, closer to 60 than 59. Dentil 86 dots the upright of the T, while dentil 90 is above and slightly left of the upright of the R. (See photo)



Reverse 82 dentils: ILE2 is far right of the center of dentil 1. Dentil 3 almost dots the upright of T3. A1 points directly to dentil 6. Dentil 9 dots the upright of T2. The famous crack from the rim through S1 begins at dentil 12. Dentil 18 dots the upright of D, while dentil 23 dots the upright of T1. The left upright of N is dotted by dentil 29. Dentil 37 lies directly below the 1 of the denominator.

² William H. Sheldon, Dorothy I. Paschal, Walter Breen, PENNY WHIMSY – A REVISION OF EARLY AMERICAN CENTS (Harper & Row, 1958), 98.

³ Edward Maris, M. D., VARIETIES OF THE COPPER ISSUES OF THE UNITED STATES' MINT IN THE YEAR 1794 (Philadelphia, PA: William K. Bellows, 1869), 4. Cent #18 corresponds to Sheldon 32.



For many specimens the dentilation gets a bit blurry on the reverse from below the fraction all the way to the O in OF. Due to some serious horizontal die misalignment the reverse dentils from 37 to 73 can seem somewhat indistinct, with only their very tips being visible. Correspondingly on the obverse, dentils from 54 to 89 are often missing, even on very fine and better specimens.

To continue, A3 points to dentil 46. Dentil 55 dots the upright of R while 58 practically dots the upright of E3. Dentil 62 dots the left upright of M and dentil 71 dots the upright of F. (See photo)

Sheldon 33 (13-K), Breen 19 (12-L)

This variety is the famous “Wheel Spoke” variety, a very rare one known for six radial cracks appearing on the reverse die.

Obverse 92 dentils: Same as Sheldon 32, Breen 18.

Reverse 83 dentils: ILE2 does not touch a dentil, so dentil 1 is very far left of ILE2. Dentil 5 is where the impressive triangular shaped bulge (crack?) appears. Dentil 6 dots A1 and dentil 9 dots the upright of T2. The die crack between D and S1, which also swells into a triangular shape, begins on the right side of dentil 15. Dentil 18 dots the upright of D. The famous crack at I1 develops at the rim between dentils 25 and 26. The left upright of N is dotted by dentil 29. Dentil 32 practically dots the left upright of U. The next crack we meet begins at dentil 34 and travels to the left ribbon end, while the crack between dentils 43 and 44 travels to the right ribbon end. I2 is dotted by dentil 52. The crack at A2 begins on the left side of dentil 65. Dentil 71 dots the upright of F.



A few more words about this reverse. Most numismatists believe (have seen) six die cracks at the latest stage of the reverse die. Unfortunately, Walter Breen’s notes include a seventh crack purportedly at S2 that has not been seen reliably by any other person.⁴ It is my belief that this seventh crack does not exist. (See photo)

⁴ Walter Breen, (Del Bland, Mark Borckardt, eds.) WALTER BREEN’S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF EARLY UNITED STATES CENTS 1793-1814 (Wolfeboro, NH: Bowers & Merena Galleries, 2000), 139.

Sheldon 34 (13-L), Breen 20 (12-M)

Obverse 92 dentils: Same as Sheldon 32 and 33, Breen 18 and 19.

Always with the cud at dentils 8, 9 and 10, but with more “cool stuff” – a crack beginning at the top left of dentil 10, intersecting the L at the uppermost left serif, arcing through the top of the cap and curving towards the rim, touching the tip of dentil 19 and finally ending in the lower right side of dentil 20. This crack becomes the foundation for a swimming pool of metal, better known as a retained cud. The pool fills with metal as this “chunk” of the die sinks, eventually terminating in one of the more spectacular die states of the Sheldon series of die varieties.

Reverse 83 dentils: ILE2 passes through the center of dentil 1. Dentil 10 is above and left of the upright of T2. Dentil 24 dots the upright of T1. Dentil 32 points to the opening of the U. The 1 in the denominator is dotted by dentil 38. A3 points to dentil 47. A2 points directly between dentils 65 and 66.

Sheldon 35 (14-L), Breen 21 (13-M)

Obverse 83 dentils: ILE passes through dentil 1 right of its center. A crack from the rim passes through the left side of dentil 18, through the lower half of the cap towards the hair. The 1 of the date practically stands on top of dentil 38. The bottom of the upright of the 7 points between dentils 40 and 41. The bottom outside curve of the 9 is embedded slightly in the tip of dentil 43 and is a hairs width from touching dentil 44. A crack starts at the left side of dentil 44, passes through the left tip of the 4, through the bust and on to the ear. TOP points between dentils 52 and 53, closer to 53. Dentil 74 points to the gap in the arms of the Y and dentil 81 almost touches the R directly above its upright. Finally, a crack from the rim through the left side of dentil 82 passes through the right upper and lower serifs of E, through the hair and meeting the aforementioned crack from the 4.

Reverse 83 dentils: Same as Sheldon 34, Breen 20.

Sheldon 36 (15-M), Breen 23 (14-N)

Obverse 87 dentils: ILE intersects dentil 1 left of its center. Dentil 7 dots the upright of I while dentil 10 almost dots the upright of L. Dentil 40 lies directly below the 1. The upright of the 7 points to dentil 42 and the upright of the 4 is dotted by dentil 48. TOP is dotted by dentil 54. Dentil 76 is above the right arm of the Y.

Reverse 82 dentils: ILE2 passes through dentil 1 just right of its center. A1 points between dentils 6 and 7. The left upright of N is dotted by dentil 29. Dentil 37 lies below the 1 of the denominator. A3 points between dentils 45 and 46, a touch closer to 46. Immediately left of M are dentils 62 and 63 which form a double dentil. The upright of F is dotted by dentil 71.

Sheldon 37 (16-M), Breen 24 (15-N)

This is the rarest of all Sheldon numbered varieties.

Obverse 85 dentils: ILE touches no dentil, so dentil 1 is very much left of ILE. Dentil 9 is above and slightly right of the upright of L. The upright of the 7 points between dentils 41 and 42, while the upright of the 4 points between numbers 46 and 47. TOP points to dentil 53. Dentil 79 is above the upright of T.

Reverse 82 dentils: Same as Sheldon 36, Breen 23

Sheldon 38 (17-M), Breen 25 (10-N)

Before talking of dentils, let me say that it is easy to understand why Dr. Sheldon thought this obverse die was the “Third Marred Field” with a “close general resemblance to...” the obverses of Sheldon 30 and 31 (Sheldon’s obverses #11 and 12).⁵ In fairness, he did state that some believed this obverse to come from the same hub as the aforementioned duo and that, if true, the die had been “radically retouched and tooled”.⁶ This is interesting. Breen’s Encyclopedia is the first mention we see of dentil strengthening on this die.⁷ If we examine the excellent photos of S-38 and S-39 in *United States Large Cents 1793-1794* by William C. Noyes, it is clear that the obverse dentils are much closer to LIBERTY and to the numerals 1794 than on S-30 and S-31.⁸ Close scrutiny reveals the dentils are in exactly the same positions as S-30 and 31, but significantly strengthened.



Obverse 85 dentils: Same as Sheldon 30 and 31, Breen 12 and 13. (See photo)

Reverse 82 dentils: Same as Sheldon 36 and 37, Breen 23 and 24.

Sheldon 39 (17-N), Breen 27 (10-P)

Obverse 85 dentils: Same as Sheldon 30, 31 and 38, Breen 12, 13 and 25. (See photo)

Reverse 77 dentils: This die is significant in that no other 1794 reverse or obverse die has less dentils and it is the only 1794 die to have less than 81 dentils. Under high magnification it appears that ILE2 does not cross a dentil, so dentil 1 is very left of ILE2. Dentil 3 is above the upright of T3. A1 points between dentils 5 and 6, closer to 6. Dentil 17 dots the upright of D, 22 dots the upright of T1, and 26 dots the right upright of N. Dentil 30 points to the opening of the U. The famous reverse arc crack (the unique and spectacular terminal state example is owned by an equally infamous Boy of '94) begins at dentil 35,



⁵ Sheldon, 103.

⁶ Sheldon, 103-104.

⁷ Breen, 151.

⁸ William C. Noyes, *UNITED STATES LARGE CENTS 1793-1794* (Ypsilanti, MI: Jon D. Lusk, 2006), S38 and S39.



crosses the end of the left ribbon, arcs through the lowest leaf under the N, turns and crosses the lower left serif of II, and ends by crashing into the tip of dentil 23. Ouch! The 1 of the denominator is directly above dentil 35. Dentil 43 points to the top of A3, and 61 points to the top of A2. Dentil 66 is above and slightly right of the upright of F. (See photo)

An Aside – Questions and Answers

I have been asked by several friends how my eyes are feeling. VERY SORE! Honestly, I have taken many photos over the past 10 years and I have the luxury of enlarging them to make dentil counting much easier than it may seem. It has not been very difficult.

Another question that gets asked very frequently is why would I number the dentils in a counterclockwise order rather than clockwise. It seems obvious to many that since legends are read clockwise, dentils should follow the same pattern. My only reply is that the mathematician came out in me. My original college major was mathematics, until I found the advanced theoretical classes way beyond my understanding and enjoyment. We Americans read from left to right, however we mathematicians (of which I probably should not include myself) travel counterclockwise when dealing with circles. Enjoy the conundrum!

If I have not made you fall asleep yet, well – good! Sheldon 40 to 49 will be examined in the next installment.



Coinage Building, First Philadelphia Mint, just before it was torn down.

FUGIO CENT DIES STUDY – PART VIII

Michael S. McLaughlin

NEWMAN DIE M: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCUL-
LAR BAND INCUSED WITH STATES
ON THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
RIGHT, SEPARATED BY TWO INCUSE
CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE ONE IN THREE
LINES WITHIN BAND. LETTERS IN WE
TOUCH BAND. LETTERS IN ARE WIDE-
LY SPACED. R TO RIGHT OF N'S CENTER.
KNOWN MEDAL TURN WITH NEWMANS 19,22
NEWMAN M-12 RARITY 3
NEWMAN M-19 RARITY 6
NEWMAN M-22 RARITY 5

DIE STATES

- M(1) LOT 621 SUPERIOR 6/77.
- M(2) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN 19.
- M(3) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN 19.
- M(4) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN 12.
- M(5) DIE DAMAGE: 3 TICKS RING 2.
- M(6) DIE BREAK: OUTSIDE OF LINKS
FOUR AND FIVE TO RIM.

NEWMAN 22.

STRIKE ORDER

M(1)-19(3) -[CLASH]	M(3)-12(3) -[CLASH]	M(6)-12(4) BREAK-	M(7)-22(3) -BREAK
M(2)-19(4) CL-CL	M(4)-12(4) CL-CL	M(6)-22(1)	M(7)-22(4) -FAILURE
M(7)-22(2)			
M(3)-19(5) CL-CL	M(5)-12(4) DAMAGE-	CL-CL	M(7)-22(5) -FAILURE



NEWMAN M(1)



NEWMAN M(2)
M(7) DIE CLASH: WITH

NEWMAN DIE MM: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCULAR
BAND INCUSED WITH STATES
ON THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
RIGHT, SEPARATED BY TWO IN-
CUSE CINQUEFOILS.. WE ARE ONE
IN THREE LINES WITHIN BAND.
W TOUCHES BAND TILTS RIGHT.
FIRST E TILTS SLIGHTLY LEFT.
RARITY 8

DIE STATES

MM(1) PAGE 677, COLONIAL NEWSLETTER

STRIKE ORDER

MM(1)-24(1)

NEWMAN DIE N: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCULAR
BAND INCUSED WITH STATES
ON THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
RIGHT., SEPARATED BY TWO IN-
CUSE CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE ONE
IN THREE LINES WITHIN BAND. LET-
TERS OF WE TOUCH BAND. LET-
TERS WITHIN BAND PERFECTLY
SPACED. CINQUEFOIL UNDER
SPACE BETWEEN N AND E.
NEWMAN N-13 RARITY 6
NEWMAN N-16 RARITY 3

DIE STATES

- N(1) LOT 2436 NASCA 4/81.
- N(2) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 55 DE-
GREES THROUGH LINK 3
TO BAND.
- N(3) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN 16.
- N(4) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 200 DE-
GREES THROUGH LINK 8. LOT
2447 NSACA 4/81.
- N(5) DIE BREAK: HORIZONTALLY
FROM THE N IN THE BAND
THROUGH RING 4.

STRIKE ORDER

N(1)-13(3) -[CLASH]	N(2)-16(1) BREAK-	N(4)-16(2) BREAK-
N(1)-16(1)	N(3)-16(2) CL-CL	N(5)-16(2) BREAK-



NEWMAN N(1)



NEWMAN N(2)



NEWMAN N(4)

NEWMAN DIE O: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
WITHIN LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCUL-
LAR BAND INCUSED WITH STATES
ON THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
RIGHT, SEPARATED BY TWO INCUSE
CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE ONE IN THREE
LINES WITHIN BAND. LETTERS OF WE
TOUCH BAND. ARE IS CLOSER TO
ONE THAN WE. CINQUEFOIL UNDER
CENTER OF LAST E.
FOUND BOTH MEDAL AND COIN TURN.
RARITY 4



NEWMAN Q(1)

DIE STATES

- O(1) LOT 1761 KAGIN'S 9/78.
- O(2) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 200 DE-
GREES RADIALY INTO JUNC-
TURE OF LINKS SEVEN AND
EIGHT. LOT 2441 NASCA 4/81.
- O(3) DIE BREAK: RIM AT 200 DE-
GREES FROM O(2) BREAK IN-
TO LINKS SEVEN, SIX AND FIVE.
- O(4) DIE CLASH: WITH NEWMAN 14.



NEWMAN O(2)

STRIKE ORDER

- | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| O(1)-14(1) | O(3)-14(1) | O(4)-14(2) |
| | BREAK- | CL-CL |
| O(2)-14(1) | | |
| BREAK- | | |



NEWMAN Q(3)

N

NEWMAN DIE OO: REGULAR DIE
CLOSED CHAIN OF THIRTEEN
LINKS SUCCESSIVELY OVERLAP-
PING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN A
COUNTERCLOCKWISE DIRECTION.
WITH LINKS IS A RAISED CIRCU-
LAR BAND INCUSED WITH STATES
ON THE LEFT AND UNITED ON THE
RIGHT., SEPARATED BY TWO IN-
CUSE CINQUEFOILS. WE ARE ONE
IN THREE LINES WITH BAND. W
TOUCHES BAND AND TILTS DOWN
RIGHT. ARE EVENLY SPACED. O
OPEN AT BOTTOM AND TOUCHES
BAND.LAST E TOUCHES BAND.
BOTTOM CINQUEFOIL UNDER
RIGHT FOOT OF N.
RARITY 8

DIE STATES

OO(1)

OO(2) DIE BREAK: SEMI CIRCULAR
BREAK BEGINNING BETWEEN
RIM AND OUTSIDE OF LINK
SIX AT 120 DEGREES, CON-
TINUING OUTSIDE OF LINKS
SIX THROUGH NINE, AND
ENDING BETWEEN RIM AND
LINK TEN. LOT 3123 B&M 9/88.

STRIKE ORDER

OO(1)-10(2)	OO(2)-10(2)
-[CLASH]	BREAK-

LATE DATE PROOF CENSUS – Part III (1849-1855)

Denis Loring

DWL JRG Slab Grade <u>Grade</u> <u>Grade</u>	<u>Pedigree</u>	<u>Comments</u>
<u>1849 N30</u>		
<u>64</u>	HC 1/27-ANS	spots below *10, right of *5, before neck
<u>60</u>	B&M 6/01:109-Stack's 7/08:1142	rim flakes UN, 1 st A, 2 nd A
<u>60</u>	A89:1549-JRF 1565-SDC	
<u>55</u>	FS 597-Hain-Bird-DL-SDC	
<u>64</u>	DL-Dixie C&S-B. Hickmoff	
	K-S 3/65:270-Stack's 11/08:3097	cleaned
	ANR 3/04:298 ERRONEOUS LISTING	light area before chin
	Lahrman 451	spot before chin
WB	J. Wilson 1109-Ryder 929-Kagin-Stolberg	questionable
<u>not proof</u>		
<u>1850 N9</u>		
<u>60DNB</u>	TJC 359-Stack's 11/08:3088	spot at *2
<u>not proof</u>	BMM 11/21-GHC-ANS	spot on neck, left of *1
<u>1850 N11</u>		
<u>64</u>	Kreisberg-JJP 257-Lipton-(SUP 5/03:1005)- (ANR 9/03:141)-B&M 8/04:15-Chris Napalitano	spots inside 8, below *2
<u>63</u>	Steigerwalt 7/94:527-B 110-Morgan 7/39:774- FS 640-Mid-American 9/84:94-RT-SDC	mark to left of *11
<u>63</u>	F 733-LM 2/72:74-A81:47- A82:1527- RSB 1238-DL-RSB-DWH	discolored at shoulder
<u>60</u>	TJC 361-Norweb 2978-SCC	spot below 85
<u>60+</u>	HRN 747-WCB-REN-EJS-G	
<u>60+</u>	seen by RT in Europe 9/95	
<u>55</u>	(Stack's 9/05:598)	
PF	Mougey 258-Sleicher 1145-SHC	bad spots on neck, top of 85
WB	W. F. Webb 7/41	
<u>PF - unattributed</u>	M 374-TJC 360-Kagins	

PF - <u>unattributed</u>	French 3/67:651	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>	Mickley 2059-Mackenzie 699-Mason	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>	Winsor 987-Chapmans	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>	Woodward 10/80:389	
PF - <u>unattributed</u>	Woodward 10/81:374	"circulated"
PF - <u>unattributed</u>	Finotti 878-Cogan	
PF	Stetson-Elder 12/24:??-WCB	
<u>not proof</u>	Ivy 8/86:34-book	unattributed
<u>1852 N8</u>		
PF	Mougey 262-HC	
PF	Mougey 263-Sleicher 1148-SHC	
PF	J. Wilson 1113-Brand	not proof per HC
PF	Morgan 377	
WB	W. F. Webb 7/41	
PF - as "B23"	NASCA 4/80:1191	spot on nose
PF - <u>unattributed</u>	Parnelee 1230	small scratch
PF - <u>unattributed</u>	Mickley 2062-Mackenzie 701-Keeney	
<u>not proof per DNB</u>	EAC '75:975-Pine Tree 1/79:148	
<u>not proof</u>	Steigerwalt 7/94-Ryder 935-NN 59:1347-	spot at *2, wire rim K9-2 obverse
	Ivy 2/85:385-Ivy 5/85:528- McIntire 8/85:476	
<u>not proof</u>	AD 964-Norweb 2989-SCC	wire rim K2-6 obverse
<u>not proof</u>	Sawicki 733-FS 705-FS 1903-HH 683-SR	spot above *1
<u>not proof</u>	TJC 381-Sloss 305-TAD 175-RARCOA	
<u>not proof</u>	Merkin 2/72:75-Stack's 3/06:3603-SDC	
<u>not proof</u>	C. E. Clapp-ANS	spot before brow
<u>1852 N10</u>		
<u>not proof</u>	Sawicki 734	
<u>1852 N24</u> - proof only		
<u>65</u>	<u>65</u> N65RD	darker at *4
<u>63</u>	<u>(62+)</u> P64RB	stain above *6
<u>63</u>	Her EI 2/11/03:13012 (offered at \$39K)	
	M 377-TJC 377-FS 722-RSB 1332-RT-DL-RSB-DWH (JRF 1737)	rim spot at 12:30

1853 N16

not proof	A89:506-RT-SDC	spot at 8/bust
note also:	Mougey 1277 - complete 1853 proof set	
	Mickley 2063	

1854 N12

<u>64</u>	N64RBX	Goldman, 1991-DL-RSB-DWH	spot above *3
<u>63</u>	P64RD	Allenburger 1138-JJP 271-D. Nagle-SUP 9/99:586-Paul Norris-SUP FPL 4/00-(SUP 6/00:398)-B&M 1/01:6171-Heritage 7/03:5215	carbon spot at nose
<u>63</u>	<u>63</u>	AD 992-TAD 189-RT-DL-(SUP 1/96:1098)-SDC	scratch left of *11
<u>63</u>		HH, 10/95	spot before nose
<u>60</u>		ANA '58:583a-Norweb 3001-Krueger 4/90:6018-Bird-?	*13 flat, dipped
<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	RSB 1385-M&G 7/94:479-SDC	lam. above *11
<u>60</u>		Tett-TR 12/00	spots before nose, reverse acid cleaned
<u>50=63/40</u>		Smithsonian	
<u>63</u>		WCB-REN-EJS-G	
<u>63</u>	P66BN	(Her 4/08:102)	
<u>60</u>		FS 779-FS 1928-JHR 1745-JRF 1828- M. Paul-(SUP 2/03:494)-(Goldberg 9/06:1013)	spot over *10, chip over second S
62DNB	P65RB	AD 991-Stack's 11/08:3112	spots before mouth, below *6
CVM 60+	N63BN	QDB FPL 4,7/01, "ex HRN 751"	rim flaw *1-2
62MB	N66RB	ANR 10/04:136-Smythe (Lustig)-(Her 5/07:2017)-(Her 9/07:124)	
	N65RB	Ttr 4/30/97:1009	
	N65RB	Kierstead <u>CW</u> ad 10/13/97	
	N65RB	Heritage 1/05:7098	
	P65RB	Ttr 6/2/97:1016, 7/2/97:1006, 8/4/97:1002, 9/3/97:1021	
	N65RB	ANR 9/05:59-book	
	N63BN	CVM 3/05	
63		A82:1529-REN	
63		B. Hickmoff	spot at *4
60+		ANA '77:445-#123	dark area on neck
PF		QDB FPL, 1974-NERCA 11/75:403-NERCA 3/77:641-Ivy FPL, 5,6/77	
WB		J. Wilson 1117-Ryder 938-Kagin	
WB		HKD 2215-Lahrman 475-Devonshire 7/83:57	

WB	TJC 406-QDB		
WB	EAC '75:1028-GFF		dark at IBERT
PF	ANA '49:1980		questionable
PF	Parmelee 1251		
PF	Mackenzie 703-Cohen		
PF	R. C. Davis 2641		
PF	Eavenson 145-Earle 3584-Wurtzbach		spot at *10
PF	McCoy 746-Hodge		
PF	Mickley 2065-Crosby		
PF	Cogan 10/75:1980		
	Richard Allen -B&M 1/01:6170-Gene Gardner		same as last?
not proof	Ivy 2/91:945-SUP 2/92:1313-#791	P65RB	
not proof	DNB-A. Mehgrig-QDB 11/94:2099 (withdrawn)	P66BR	
not proof	Mougey 266-B 114-M 386-TJC 407-QDB 1/97:131-Paul		rim mark 8:00 obverse
not proof	QDB 9/95:3409-QDB 3/97:134-Paul	P64BNX	spot at *1
questionable			
<u>1855 N10</u>			
<u>64</u>	Her 1/08:2677	P66RB	spot on l. base if 1
<u>63</u>	HH 746-TR-RBU	P64RB	
<u>63</u>	Goldman, 1987-DL-RSB-DWH		spot below chin
<u>63</u>	QDB 6/84:3403		
<u>63</u>	Smithsonian		spot at *9
<u>63</u>	QDB 9/96:54-DL-EAC '01:531-ANR 6/04:2249	N65BN	small spots at *5, *6
<u>60+</u>	QDB 10/82:2200-A84:27-Mid-Am 5/85:65- Stack's 1/87:852-Vintage 2/89:180		tarnish below ON
<u>60</u>	HKD 2218-Sloss 337-Lahrman 485- Kreisberg 9/73:947-RT-SDC-TR	P66BN	dark spot below LIB, edge dent at RI
<u>60</u>	Henderson 1921-GHC-ANS		
<u>60</u>	NERCA 7/78:110-book		spots above *10
<u>60</u>	Bill Kiefer 8/93	P63RB	spot at *3
<u>60</u>	NERCA 12/76:173-Goldberg 5/03:1033	N64BN	marks below 8, at lips, *11
<u>60</u>	SUP 2/99:2437-book	P63RB	spot before nose
<u>65</u>	Kagin 3/84:1292-Van Cleave 4416-Paul		rim nick between *3-4, over 1 st 5
<u>65</u>	HKD 2217-REN	<u>65DNB</u>	lint mark at *1
<u>63</u>			
<u>60</u>	SUP 9/85:930-SUP 2/87:89-JRF 1883-M. Paul		pit on rim *9-10
<u>64</u>	Garrett 203-A86:17-A89:1557-LJS-Ohio collector	N64RD	spot behind eye
<u>63</u>	Mid-Am 9/84:561-SUP 5/03:1072-#506	P64RB	spot under 1st 5

not proof		Stack's 10/71:583-RSB 1417	
not proof		Kagin 5/78:90-Stack's 10/98/:62	spot left of *1, rt. of lowest curl
not proof		TJC 421-Kosoff	
not proof (AJT)		A88:20-Stack's	spot below 8
1855 N11 - proof only			
<u>64</u>	<u>66</u>	A81:48-REN	
<u>64</u>	<u>64</u>	FS 809-REN-SDC	
<u>64</u>	<u>63</u>	RSB 1421-DL-JRF 1886- T. Denman	spot under tip of nose
<u>64</u>	<u>63+</u>	TJC 418-Oeschner 232-A. Kollar-Sup 5/05:1049-Stack's 1/08:75	spot before forelock
<u>64</u>		Allenburger 1150-JJP 277-B&M 1/99:27-TR	
<u>63</u>	<u>63</u>	Mougey 270-B 115-M 389-TJC 420-A80:1086-A82:1530-REN-EAC '91:432-DL-RSB-DWH	tiny spot above *1 finger print at chin
<u>63</u>		Kraft 2/23-GHC-ANS	spot behind bun
<u>60+</u>	<u>63</u>	SUP 10/91:645-Briggs	
<u>60</u>	<u>60</u>	Stack's 6/91:1637-WAR 490-TR-(ANA '02:299)-Heritage 1/05:30100	spot before lips, rim cut K-9 obverse
<u>55</u>	<u>55</u>	AD 1011-Stack's 4/83:1112-KRK 1/84:210-ANA '85:106-A86:507-M&G 7/94:507-M&G 1/96:657-SDC	flaw left of 1, burmished
<u>50</u>	<u>55</u>	Kagin 10/77:148-JHR 1805-M&G 7/93:431-Matthews	rough spot at *6-7
	<u>65+</u>	Schulman 11/67:917-REN	
	<u>60DNB</u>	Geiss 255-Lahrman 486-Stack's 11/08:3121	
<u>65</u>	<u>65BN</u>	Stack's 3/06:3606-Stack's 10/06:2566-Stack's 11/07:317	spots at *10-12 brown
<u>63</u>		DL-Classical Amer. Coins-B. Hickmoff	
(60)	<u>60BNX</u>	NTL 3/00:TR	scr before ear
<u>60</u>		Scotsman 1/03:275	scr on cheek
PF		Kreisberg 2/59:1241, 2/60:937-book	
PF		J. Wilson 1119-Holden	
PF		Bluestone 89:970-WCB	spot at *4
WB		W. F. Webb 7/41	

MORE CORRECTIONS AND UPDATES TO THE EARLY DATE CONDITION CENSUS

Sheldon 17b, 21, 47, 60, and 61

Del Bland

My latest project has been going through the Elder sales, and I have been able to extract some important information from them. He handled a huge number of large cents and a lesser number of half cents, many of which were top quality.

Breen 1b: Dies 1-A

Sheldon 17b

AG-3 *Sharpness of VG-7 but pitted.* John K. Borcky • Thomas L. Elder 6/1935: 352 \$2.20 • Walter Garabrant • Stack's 11/1949: 361 \$9 • C. Douglas Smith, 8/19/1950 in an "even-up trade" for a F-12 1801 S-218 • Dr. William H. Sheldon, 4/19/1972 • R. E. Naftzger, Jr., 2/23/1992 • Eric Streiner, 8/13/1992 • Robinson S. Brown, Jr. • **Superior Stamp & Coin Co.** 1/1996: 23 \$11,550 • Daniel W. Holmes, Jr. *Obverse and reverse illustrated in Noyes. Discovered by C. Douglas Smith on 7/30/1950 to be a new sub-variety.*

FR-2 Purchased unattributed at a local coin show on 8/11/1996 by David L. Palmer • Wes A. Rasmussen.

No other examples are known.

Breen 5: Dies 4-B

Sheldon 21

MS-61 Henry C. Colvin • Allan D. Colvin • Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute • *French's #80* 10/1962: 25 \$1,050 • Louis Helfenstein • Lester Merkin 8/1964: 2 \$2,100 • Dr. Herbert I. Ketterman • James A. Hayes • Lester Merkin, privately 1/1977 • Dr. Robert J. Shalowitz, 3/1977 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr., 2/23/1992 • Eric Streiner • Jay Parrino (The Mint) • **Superior Stamp & Coin Co.** 5/1995: 2021 \$33,000 • Walter Husak, 4/19/1997 • Dr. Thomas Turissini. *State III. Obverse and reverse illustrated in Noyes.*

MS-60 Dr. Edward Maris • David Proskey • Henry C. Hines • Dr. William H. Sheldon, 4/19/1972 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • *Early American Coppers* 4/1989: 21 \$15,000 • Dr. Allen Bennett, 1/1999 • Walter Husak. *State IV. Obverse illustrated in Penny Whimsy.*

AU-55 Harlan P. Smith • S.H. & H. Chapman 5/1906: 1072 \$21 • Joseph H. Wright • William B. Horisel • New Netherlands Coin Co. • New Netherlands Coin Co. #59 6/1967: 1196 \$475 • Ed Hipps (Ed's Coin & Stamp Shop), 11/1973 • Del Bland, 5/13/1986 • Herman Halpern • Stack's 3/1988: 23 \$7,150 • Anthony Terranova • Stack's 10/1990: 659 \$4,250 • Anthony Terranova • Tom Morley • **Superior Galleries** 5/1992: 166 \$7,975 • Tom Morley • **Superior Auction Galleries** 1/1994: 773 \$7,150. *State III. Obverse illustrated in Morley.*

AU-55 Carl Wurtzbach, 3/1933 • George H. Clapp • ANS • Dr. William H. Sheldon • Dorothy Paschal • Coin Investments (Gordon J. Wrubel) FPL (Coin World), 5/4/1977 \$3,950 • Kazuo Koike (Monterey Rare Coin) • **Superior Galleries** 1/1989: 3094 \$5,060 • Robinson S. Brown, Jr. • **Superior Stamp & Coin Co.** 1/1996: 30 \$7,700.

AU-55 *With tiny planchet striations covering the obverse.* Lester Merkin 9/1970: 22 \$500 • John W. Adams • Dorothy Paschal • Myles Z. Gerson • Bertram M. Cohen (Great American Coin Co.) • George E. Ewing, Jr. • Bertram M. Cohen (Great American Coin Co.) • *Early American Numismatics (Dana Linett) "Buy or Bid" Sale #2, 1985: 524 \$4,500. State I.*

AU-50 *With a small planchet clip.* Thomas Cleneay • **S.H. & H. Chapman** 12/1890: 1802 \$33 • Byron Reed, 1891 • City of Omaha • Spink America #8450, 10/1996: 16 \$18,150 • W.M. "Jack" Wadlington.

AU-50 *With some obverse planchet defects.* Paul S. Seitz FPL, 11/1946 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • **New Netherlands Coin Co.** 11/1973: 343 \$1,100 • First Coinvestors • **Pine Tree Auction Co.** 2/1975: 606 \$1,400 • **New England Rare Coin Galleries** • **Paramount International Coin Corp.** 7/1976: 2 \$2,500 • Steve Ivy Rare Coin Co. FPL 8/1976 • **Bowers and Ruddy Galleries** 2/1977: 838 \$1,700 • Steve Ivy Rare Coin Co. • Del Bland • George E. Ewing, Jr. • Robinson S. Brown, Jr. • **Superior Galleries** 9/1986: 29 \$5,060 • G. Lee Kuntz • **Superior Galleries** 10/1991: 28 \$4,400 • unknown • **Superior Stamp & Coin Co.** 5/1995: 2022 \$3,960 • Larry Briggs Rare Coins. *State III.*

AU-50 M.A. Brown • **S.H. & H. Chapman** 4/1897: 750 \$13 • J. Colvin Randall • E. Gilbert • Thomas L. Elder #44, 10/1910: 5 \$11.50 • H.O. Granberg • William H. Woodin • The United States Coin Co. 5/1915: 87 \$16 • Howard R. Newcomb • **J.C. Morgenthau & Co.** #458, 2/1945: 21 \$65 • Charles H. Deetz • David O. Hughes • Willard C. Blaisdell • John W. Adams • **Bowers and Ruddy Galleries** FPL, 1982: 10 \$4,750 • Bertram M. Cohen (Great American Coin Co.) • George E. Ewing, Jr., 12/26/1989 • Frank H. Stillinger. *State II. Obverse and reverse illustrated in Elder-Gilbert and in Chapman. Obverse illustrated in Early American Cents.*

AU-50 R. Green (Charles Green) • J.H. South • *Stack's* 2/1951: 329 \$25 • Warren B. Snow.

AU-50 *With a line-like planchet defect on the reverse.* Purchased prior to 1871 by Peter Gschwend • William H. Woodin • Thomas L. Elder #18, 6/1908: 529 • unknown • **Superior Galleries** 10/1978: 996 \$1,350 • Steve Ivy Rare Coin Co. • Thomas N. Shipp, Jr. • Christie's (New York) 9/1986: 224 • Herman Halpern • *Stack's* 3/1988: 24 \$2,640 • Robert E. Matthews • **Superior Galleries** 5/1989: 146 \$4,840 • Tom Morley, 9/29/1989 • Daniel W. Holmes, Jr. *Obverse illustrated in Morley.*

EF-45 Dr. Edward Maris • Ed. Frossard Collection • **Ed. Frossard** #37 10/1884: 853 • T. Harrison Garrett • Robert Garrett, 1919 • John Work Garrett • Johns Hopkins University • **Bowers and Ruddy Galleries** 11/1979: 57 \$3,500 • Anthony Terranova • **Superior Galleries** 2/1991: 662 \$4,180 • Dr. Eugene Sherman • Anthony Terranova, 4/1993 • Dr. Thomas Turissini, 4/19/1997 • Walter Husak.

EF-45 *With three line-like planchet defects and a planchet pit mark, all on obverse.* Dr. George P. French, 3/21/1929 • B. Max Mehl FPL, 1929: 24 \$150 • T. James Clarke, 1944 • B. Max Mehl, privately • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • A. Kosoff (Kosoff's Coin Bulletin #3, 11/1954 \$250) • Glen Wallace • A. Kosoff • Rare Coin Company of America 5/1974: 800 \$650 • Gordon J. Wrubel • Dr. C.R. Chambers • Douglas F. Bird • Gary Ruttenberg • **M & G Auctions 8/1996: 73 \$4,840** • Steven K. Ellsworth.

Breen 39: Dies 20-Z

Sheldon 47

EF-45 Charles E. Clapp, Sr., 12/1924 • George H. Clapp • ANS. *State II. Obverse and reverse illustrated in Early American Cents and in Noyes. Obverse illustrated in Penny Whimsey.*

VF-30 *Sharpness of EF-45 but surfaces are rough.* Henry C. Miller • *The United States Coin Co. 12/1917: 411 \$175* • Dr. George P. French, 3/21/1929 • *B. Max Mehl FPL, 1929: 26 \$200* • T. James Clarke, 1944 • B. Max Mehl • B. Max Mehl #112, 4/1949: 2303 \$105 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr., 12/11/1986 • Herman Halpern • **Stack's 3/1988: 65 \$1,210** • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • *Early American Coppers 4/1989: 36 \$1,900* • Frank H. Stillinger. *Reverse illustrated in Elder-Gilbert and in Chapman.*

VF-30 Col. James W. Ellsworth, 3/1923 • Wayte Raymond • Charles E. Clapp, Sr. • George H. Clapp • Dr. William H. Sheldon • Dorothy Paschal • John W. Adams • **Bowers and Ruddy Galleries FPL, 1982: 42 \$2,250** • Denis W. Loring, 5/7/1983 • Jack H. Robinson • **Superior Galleries 1/1989: 83 \$6,050** • Daniel W. Holmes, Jr. • Ira & Larry Goldberg Auctioneers #54, 9/2009: 76 \$18,975. *State III.*

VF-30 Henry C. Miller • Thomas L. Elder 4/1917: 658 \$27 • Howard R. Newcomb • *J.C. Morgenthau & Co. #458, 2/1945: 22 \$45* • Milton A. Holmes • *Stack's 10/1960: 1376 \$330* • Dorothy Paschal • Dr. William H. Sheldon, 4/19/1972 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr., 2/23/1992 • Eric Streiner • *Early American Coppers 4/1994: 173 \$5,000* • Thomas D. Reynolds. *Obverse illustrated in Chapman.*

VF-25 Henry C. Hines • Homer K. Downing • *1052 ANA (New Netherlands Coin Co. #38): 1641 \$50* • Dr. William H. Sheldon • Dr. Charles L. Ruby, 12/1972 • Superior Stamp & Coin Co. • **Superior Galleries 2/1974: 376 \$620** • Del Bland, 6/20/1985 • Bertram M. Cohen (Great American Coin Co.) • George E. Ewing, Jr. • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM) FPL #45, 10/1994 \$3,250.

VF-25 *Sharpness of EF-40 but edge dents.* Fred W. Coops, Jr. (Fred Coops Stamps & Coins) • Steven Teoli, 5/1984 • Jack H. Beymer FPL, Coin World 1/15/1986, \$2,500 • Midwest collector, 5/7/1990 • Thomas D. Reynolds, 6/1995 • Walter Husak.

VF-25 George H. Clapp, 3/31/1949 • Carnegie Institute.

VF-25 *Sharpness of EF-40 but covered with minute handling marks.* Donald Brigandi (Brigandi Coin Co.) FPL, Coin World 3/2/1988, \$3,000.

VF-20 Lester Merkin, privately • C. Douglas Smith, 1965 • Alfred Bonard • C. Douglas Smith • Lester Merkin 10/1966: 96 \$600 • C. Douglas Smith, 12/1970 • John W. Adams • Dr. Robert A. Schuman • John W. Adams, 3/1975 • Denis W. Loring, 8/1982 • George E. Ewing, Jr. • Del Bland • Donald H. Petersen • **Superior Galleries 2/1992: 701 \$1,540** • John R. Frankenfield • Superior Galleries 2/2001: 248 \$4,600 • Larry A. Bland.

F-15 *Sharpness of VF-35 but porous.* Abner Kreisberg Corp., via Jerry Cohen, 8/1976 • Denis W. Loring • *Early American Coppers 3/1977: 26 \$170* • Richard Gross Rare Coins • Chuck Furjanic • Del Bland • Jack H. Beymer • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM) • Dr. Gerald I. Maas • Superior Stamp & Coin Co. 2/1998: 823 \$715 • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM) FPL's 1998-99 \$1,500.

F-15 Andrew Y. Hodgdon • *Mayflower Coin Auctions 11/1969: 105 \$155* • Charles A. Blood • Early American Coppers 4/1999: 147 \$2,400 • Charles "Chuck" Heck.

F-15 Howard R. Newcomb, privately • Dr. William H. Sheldon • Harold Straight • French's #62 10/1956: 445 • Edward H. Schwartz • A. Kosoff 10/1961: 53 \$205 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • New Netherlands Coin Co. 11/1973: 367 \$190 • Roger S. Cohen, Jr. • Superior Galleries 2/1992: 702 \$687.50 • Robert E. Matthews • Early American Coppers 4/1998: 85 \$950 • Thomas D. Reynolds.

F-15 *Sharpness of VF-30 but some corrosion.* Consignment "Job, N.Y." • David M. Bullowa 10/1949: 534 • Homer K. Downing • 1952 ANA (New Netherlands Coin Co. #38): 1640 \$97.50 • Willard C. Blaisdell • Del Bland • Tom Morley • Fred Clymer • Tom Morley • Superior Galleries 5/1992: 202 \$550 • W.R. Gheen • Superior Stamp & Coin Co. 9/1996: 1622 \$770 • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM) 9/17/1996 • Walter J. Husak • Superior Stamp & Coin 6/1998: 83 \$687.50 • Charles "Chuck" Heck. *Reverse illustrated in Penny Whimsey.*

F-15 Dr. Hiram T. Ward 8/1978 • G. Lee Kuntz • Superior Galleries 10/1991: 54 \$1,100 • Philip J. Moore.

F-15 *Sharpness of VF-30 but numerous minor nicks with faint scratches around the reverse devices.* Dorothy Gershenson • Superior Galleries 10/1991: 700 \$253 • Thomas D. Reynolds • Roy A. Baker • Superior Stamp & Coin 2/1999: 1980 • Roy A. Baker.

F-15 *Sharpness of VF-35 but porous.* A Southern Gentleman • Stack's 6/1989: 1016 \$1,100 • Daniel Demeo.

F-15 W.W. Hays, 1900 • Charles Steigerwalt, 1906 • Charles G. Zug • Lyman H. Low 3/1907: 6 \$3.50 • C.H. Stearns • Mayflower Coin Co. • Mayflower Coin Auctions 12/1966: 305 \$235 • Herman Halpern • Stack's 3/1987: 124 \$880 • Robinson S. Brown, Jr. • Superior Stamp & Coin Co. 1/1996: 66 \$1,265 • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM). *Obverse and reverse illustrated in frossard-Hays.*

F-15 Henry C. Hines • Homer K. Downing \$20 • C. Douglas Smith (Scrapbook ad 1/1952 as "VF-20" \$30) • Thos. P. Warfield • Associated Coin Auction Co. 10/1955: 172 \$30 • unknown.

F-15 Hillcrest Enterprises #2, 10/1970: 2 \$140 • Robinson S. Brown, Jr. • Superior Galleries 9/1986: 63 \$990 • Gary Ruttenberg • M&G Auctions 8/1996: 91 \$1,127.50 • Daniel Trollan

F-15 *With a long line-like planchet defect on obverse.* Henry Christensen • Roger Burdette • American Numismatic Rarities 12/2005: 210 \$5,750 • Thomas D. Reynolds 12/12/2005 • Alan Boka.

F-15 Thomas D. Reynolds 8/1998 • Robert C. Clark • 2000 ANA (Boers and Merena Galleries): 234 \$1,380 • unknown.

F-15 Roscoe F. Ballard • Numismatic Gallery FPL, Fall 1946 \$22.50 • Dr. Charles L. Ruby 12/1972 • Superior Stamp & Coin Co., privately • John Christensen (Golden Valley Numismatics) 7/24/1975 • Richard V. Punchard 6/15/1989 • Wes Rasmussen • Heritage Numismatic Auctions #360, 1/2005: 3055 \$2,185 • March Wells. *State I.*

F-15 *Sharpness of VF-25 but lightly porous and obverse scratches.* Jack H. Beymer 11/1972 • Del Bland • Jeffrey Oliphant.

Breen 52: Dies 27-HH

Sheldon 60

MS-61 Major Sir Rowland Denys Guy Winn, M.C., 4th Baron St. Oswald • Christie, Manson & Woods, Ltd. (London) 10/1964: 155 \$2,184 • Dorothy Paschal • Dr. William H. Sheldon, 4/19/1972 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr., 2/23/1992 • Eric Streiner, 3/1992 • Denis W. Loring, 7/30/1993 • Thomas D. Reynolds. *Obverse and reverse illustrated in Noyes.*

AU-55 Charles I. Bushnell • Lorin G. Parmelee • S.H. & H. Chapman 6/1882: 2625 \$11 • Lorin G. Parmelee • New York Coin & Stamp Co. 6/1890: 689 \$17 • Dr. Thomas Hall, 9/7/1909 • Virgil M. Brand, 1934 • Horace Brand • New Netherlands Coin Co. #34, 10/1951: 601 \$205 • Dr. William H. Sheldon • Dorothy Paschal • John W. Adams • Bowers and Ruddy Galleries FPL, 1982: 57 \$4,250 • Dr. Boyd E. Hayward • Bowers and Merena 9/1997: 262 \$15,400 • Dr. Allen Bennet 1/1998 • Walter J. Husak. *State IV. Obverse and reverse illustrated in Frossard-Hays. Reverse illustrated in Penny Whimsy.*

AU-55 L.F. Montanye • H.G. Sampson 4/1881: 310 \$4.70 • R.A. Britton • H.G. Sampson 2/1882: 774 \$4.75 • Ed. Frossard collection • Ed. Frossard #37, 10/1884: 878 • T. Harrison Garrett • Robert Garrett, 1919 • John Work Garrett • Johns Hopkins University • Bowers and Ruddy Galleries 11/1979: 72 \$4,500 • Tom Morley • John W. Adams • Bowers and Ruddy Galleries FPL, 1982: 58 \$3,500 • Jerry A. Wells. *State III. Obverse and reverse illustrated in Chapman.*

EF-45 Charles J. du Pont • Stack's 9/1954: 84 \$260 • Doris Nelson Szymanski • Stack's 2/1976: 16 \$1,050 • Del Bland, 1/4/1985 • Bertram M. Cohen (Great American Coin Co.) • George E. Ewing, Jr. • Eric Streiner, 8/17/1992 • Dr. Allen Bennett, 1/1998 • Walter Husak, 6/3/1999 • Anthony Terranova and Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM), 7/23/1999 • Michael "Mickey" Arconti. *Obverse illustrated in Morley.*

EF-40 Dr. George P. French, 3/21/1929 • *B. Max Mehl FPL, 1929: 58 \$80* • T. James Clarke • Dr. William H. Sheldon 1945 • Ernest Henderson, 11/1958 • Dorothy Paschal • Keith Krause, 2/1971 • Del Bland, 2/1973 • Dr. Dane B. Nielsen, 3/1979 • Denis W. Loring, 5/7/1983 • Jack H. Robinson • **Superior Galleries 1/1989: 107 \$3,740** • Gary Ruttenberg • **M&G Auctions 8/1996: 96 \$4,840** • Robert C. Clark. *State IV.*

VF-35 From Europe • Lester Merkin 3/1968: 167 \$300 • Norman Stack collection • Herman Halpern • **Stack's 3/1988: 83 \$1,650** • Robert E Matthews • **Superior Galleries 5/1989: 193 \$4,400** • Daniel W. Holmes, Jr.

VF-35 W.W. Hays, 1900 • Chas. Steigerwalt, 1906 • Charles G. Zug • Lyman H. Low 3/1907: 35 \$4.75 • Thomas L. Elder • E. Gilbert • Thomas L. Elder #44 10/1910: 35 \$18 • H.O. Granberg • William H. Woodin • The United States Coin Co. 5/1915: 120 \$11 • Howard R. Newcomb • J.C. Morgenthau & Co. #458 2/1945: 52 \$27. *Reverse illustrated in Elder-Gilbert.*

VF-35 Charles S. Philips • **Henry Chapman 6/1909: 740 \$10** • William Sleicher • S.H. Chapman 10/1919: 917 \$7.25 • Charles E. Clapp, Sr., 12/1924 • George H. Clapp • ANS. *Reverse illustrated in Early American Cents.*

VF-35 David Proskey • Henry C. Hines, 1944 • Dr. William H. Sheldon • C. Douglas Smith, 1965 • Alfred Bonard • French's, privately 5/1967 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • *New Netherlands Coin Co. 11/1973: 381 \$750* • Dr. Edward R. Bush • *Early American Coppers 1/1979: 98 \$725* • Dr. Edward R. Bush • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • Myles Z. Gerson, 8/1980 • Dr. Philip W. Ralls • **Superior Galleries 1/1990: 223 \$2,750** • March Wells • Ira & Larry Goldberg Auctioneers #51, 2/2009: 538 \$4,255 • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM) • Dr. Harry E. Salyards. *State IV.*

VF-35 *With several small planchet defects on reverse.* Purchased unattributed from a coin shop by Robert Fritz • Thomas D. Reynolds, 1/1991 • Tom Morley • **Superior Galleries 5/1992: 222 \$2,310** • Tom Morley • Eric Streiner • Thomas D. Reynolds and Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM) • **McCawley & Grellman Auctions #11 1/1994: 142** • Thomas D. Reynolds and Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM), 5/1996 • Walter Husak.

VF-35 *With weak striking at RT. Sharpness of AU-55 but rough.* R.W. Montgomery • Thomas L. Elder 4/1936: 1140 \$15.50 • G.B. Hussey • **New Netherlands Coin Co. #54, 4/1960: 1358 \$140** • "DMI" • Hollinbeck Kagin Coin Co. • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • Denis W. Loring • Gordon J. Wrubel • Fred Sweeney Rare Coins • American Auction Association 5/1972: 600 \$700 • unknown • **Stack's 3/2002: 88 \$4,600** • unknown • **Stack's 6/2002: 264 \$1,725** • unknown.

VF-30 Hollinbeck Kagin Coin Co. • Federal Brand Enterprises 10/1961: 1485 • Hollinbeck Kagin Coin Co. • Hollinbeck Kagin Coin Co. #250, Part I, 6/1963: 360 • Hollinbeck Kagin Coin Co. • Hollinbeck Kagin Coin Co. #250 Part 3, 3/1964: 1522 \$535 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr., 3/1971 • Denis W. Loring, 4/1971 • John W. Adams • Denis W. Loring, 8/1973 • Dr. Robert A. Schuman • Dr. Robert J. Shalowitz, 7/1974 • C. Douglas Smith, 8/1974 • Dr. Robert J. Shalowitz, 10/1974 • C. Douglas Smith, 2/1975 • Denis W. Loring, 8/1980 • Myles Z. Gerson • Bertram M. Cohen (Great American Coin Co.) • Wes A. Rasmussen • **Heritage Numismatic Auctions #360, 1/2005: 3070 \$6,325** • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM).

VF-30 Homer K. Downing • *1952 ANA (New Netherlands Coin Co. #38): 1679 \$30* • Dr. William H. Sheldon • Dorothy Paschal, 3/1972 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • Denis W. Loring, 7/1979 • Fred H. Borchardt.

VF-30 *With blunt striking at RTY. Sharpness of AU-50 but encrusted with traces of scraping on reverse.* Frank D. Taylor • Henry Chapman • Henry Chapman 6/1908: 34 • Robert D. Book, 5/1930 • George H. Clapp, 3/31/1949 • Carnegie Institute.

VF-30 *Sharpness of EF-40 but edge dents.* Abner Kreisberg, 3/25/1958 • Eugene Exman.

VF-30 *With a line-like planchet defect on cap.* Dr. William H. Sheldon, 10/1959 • A.C. "Hance" Jaquett, 1983 • Fred H. Borchardt.

Breen 53: Dies 27-II

Sheldon 61

MS-63 James G. Macallister \$100 • Milton A. Holmes • **Stack's 10/1960: 1381 \$1,700** • Dorothy Paschal • Gordon J. Wrubel • Tom Morley, 1978 • John W. Adams • Marvin Taichert • **Stack's 5/2001: 10 \$48,300** • Dr. Thomas Turissini.

MS-60 *With some tiny planchet defects on reverse.* Henry C. Miller • The United States Coin Co. 12/1917: 415 \$115 • Dr George P. French • Charles E. Clapp, Sr., 12/1924 • George H. Clapp • ANS • Dr. William H. Shelson • T. James Clarke, 5/1955 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • John W. Adams • **Bowers and Ruddy Galleries FPL, 1982: 60 \$8,000** • **Bowers and Ruddy Galleries RCR #46, December 1982 \$8,000** • Dr. Boyd E. Hayward • **Bowers and Merena 9/1997: 263** • Dr. Boyd E. Hayward (This cent was part of the Roy E. Naftzger Jr. vs The American Numismatic Society lawsuit which subsequently was resolved and it is no longer in dispute.) • Ira & Larry Goldberg Coins & Collectibles 2/2008: 1044 \$19,550 • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM) 4/24/2009 • Larry A. Bland. *State III. Obverse illustrated in Early American Cents and in Penny Whimsy.*

AU-55 *Quality of MS-61 but a long obverse scratch.* Major Sir Rowland Denys Guy Winn, M.C., 4th Baron St. Oswald • Christie Manson & Woods, Ltd. (London) 10/1964: 156 \$1,008 • **Stack's** • Frank H. Masters Jr. • **Rare Coin Company of America 5/1971: 73 \$3,200** • R.E. Naftzger, Jr., 2/23/1992 • Eric Streiner • Chris Victor-McCawley (CVM) • Dr. Thomas Turissini • Walter Husal. *Obverse and reverse illustrated in Noyes.*

AU-55 Charles H. Fisher, 1948 • Homer K. Downing, 1949 • Dr. William H. Sheldon, 4/19/1972 • R.E. Naftzger, Jr. • **New Netherlands Coin Co. 11/1973: 382 \$1,600** • Dr. Edward R. Bush • Darwin B. Palmer, Jr. • Dr. Robert J. Shalowitz • David Berg • Gordon J. Wrubel • Dorothy Paschal • Charter Oak Coin Co. • Jack H. Beymer • Jeffrey Oliphant.

AU-50 A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. (London), 11/1946 • Willard C. Blaisdell, 2/17/1975 \$1,700 • Del Bland • Dr. Robert A. Schuman, 3/1976 • Del Bland • Myles Z. Gerson • Bertram M. Cohen (Great American Coin Co.) • George E. Ewing, Jr. • Del Bland, 7/31/1984 • Jack H. Robinson • **Superior Galleries 1/1989: 108 \$5,775** • Daniel W. Holmes, Jr. *State II.*

AU-50 From Europe • Lester Merkin 3/1968: 168 \$560 • Dr. I. Herbert Katz • Lester Merkin, 1/16/1974 • C. Douglas Smith • Del Bland • George E. Ewing, Jr.

EF-45 *With a small planchet defect on the reverse edge.* E. Gilbert • Thomas L. Elder #44, 10/1910: 36 \$29 • H.O. Granberg • William H. Woodin • The United States Coin Co. 5/1915: 121 \$17 • Dr. George P. French, 3/21/1929 • *B. Max Mehl FPL, 1929: 60 \$125* • T. James Clarke, 1944 • Dr. William H. Sheldon • Norman Stack collection • **Auction '88 (Stack's): 1013 \$2,860** • Denis W. Loring • Roy Rauch • Tom Morley • **Superior Galleries 5/1992: 441 \$7,425** • Robinson S. Brown, Jr. • **Superior Stamp & Coin Co. 1/1996: 87 \$8,250** • Walter Husak. *Obverse and reverse illustrated in Elder-Gilbert and in Chapman.*

EF-40 *Sharpness of AU-55 but edge dents and some corrosion.* W.W. Hays, 1900 • Chas. Steigerwalt • Robert D. Book, 5/1930 • George H. Clapp • ANS.

VF-35 Charles Stehlin • Thomas L. Elder 4/1917: 495 \$7 • S.H Chapman.

VF-30 Henry C. Hines • Homer K. Downing • *1952 ANA (New Netherlands Coin Co. #38): 1680 \$37.50* • Dr. William H. Sheldon • C. Douglas Smith, 1965 • Alfred Bonard.

VF-30 *Sharpness of AU-55 but porous: cleaned and recolored.* Dr. William H. Sheldon • ANS.

VF-30 Dr. William H. Sheldon • *Stack's 10/1939: 327 as "Unc." \$25* • Judge Thomas L. Gaskill • New Netherlands Coin Co., privately 11/1956 • Dorothy Paschal.

VF-30 *Sharpness of EF-40 but finely rough.* Philip G. Straus • *Stack's 5/1959: 131 as "S-60, Hays-35" \$60* • Robert J. Kissner • **Stack's 6/1975: 260 \$400.**

VF-30 Chas. Steigerwalt, 1906 • John G. Zug • Lyman H. Low 3/1907: 36 \$3.25 • Howard R. Newcomb • J.C. Morgenthau & Co. #458, 2/1945: 53 \$32.50 • Dr. William H. Sheldon. *Reverse illustrated in Early American Cents and in Penny Whimsy.*

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EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS 2011 CONVENTION

May 12-15, 2011 - Portland, Oregon

The 2011 EAC convention will be held at the Lloyd Center Doubletree Hotel in Portland Oregon, 1000NE Multnomah Street 97232. Room rates are fixed at \$139 standard or \$149 premium and reservations need to be made by April 11, 2011. Call 503-281-6111 or visit doubletree.hilton.com. The hotel is centrally located near downtown Portland with views of the city and Cascade Mountains. The hotel can be reached by the public MAX rail line directly from baggage claim at PDX airport for \$2.35 (early copper specie not required); by Blue Star Shuttle for \$14 (800-247-2272); or taxi for \$30. The last MAX train leaves the airport at 11:49 PM and trains run every 15-20 minutes. Endless restaurants are in the neighborhood or by free MAX train ten minutes away in downtown.

The oversized bourse will accommodate many exhibits and sale lot viewing. The bourse will open 9-5 Friday and Saturday and be open 9-3 on Sunday. Educational activities will be organized similar to prior conventions.

The reception will be held on Thursday evening followed by the colonial, half cent, large cent, and early silver happenings. The annual EAC private sale is again set for Saturday evening. Sunday morning will be lot pickup and the membership meeting. JRCS members are invited to attend again this year so bring your interesting early silver.

Portland is in bloom in May! An optional winery tour is set for Thursday May 12 between the grading seminar and the reception. A waterfall tour is in planning for Saturday morning to the nearby Columbia River Gorge, a site not to be missed especially in spring. Contact Rob Norwich (rnorvich@samhealth.org) early for more information and reservations. Local numismatist and hiker Jerry Bobbe (jbobbe@comcast.net) will organize a full day walking tour of Silver Falls State Park followed by local microbrews on Wednesday before the show; please contact him early if you are interested. We encourage all members to make this year's EAC a destination trip with the waterfalls, nearby attractions including the stunning Oregon coast and Mount Hood (yes, downhill skiing is still available through Memorial Day). Please do not shy away from contacting us directly to plan your trip...we look forward to seeing you in Springtime in Portland.

Nathan Markowitz
cascades1787@yahoo.com

Bim Gander
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Rob Norwich
rnorvich@samhealth.org

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THURSDAY EVENING RECEPTION, EAC PORTLAND

Contributions for food and drink to be served at the annual convention-opening reception May 12, 2011 are respectfully solicited. Please send your check to Bim Gander at 12770 NW Steelhead Falls Drive, Terrabone, Oregon 97760. Thanks!

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REGION 3 MEETING AT THE BALTIMORE CONVENTION CENTER

Brett Dudek

Region 3 met on Saturday November 6 at 1:00 in room 301 of the Baltimore Convention Center. The meeting was called to order and as is tradition, all in attendance stated their names, the area they came from and their collecting interests. There were 16 members and guests in attendance as follows, with two in the group attending their first EAC meeting!

Brett Dudek	Bill Eckberg	Susan Eckberg
Red Henry	Mike Packard	Bill McMahon
Darin Augustine	Greg Heim	Scott Barrett
Frederick Cook	John Dirnbauer	Craig Sholley
Mark Switzer	Nikqui Switzer	Donald Neiman
Frank Goss		

After introductions were made Bill Eckberg passed around two of his newest acquisitions, a reverse brockage of a stemless reverse half cent and a dramatically offstruck 1825 half cent. What a pair of incredible errors! Greg Heim also passed around several photos that were taken many years ago at past ANA and EAC Conventions, *etc.*

For this meeting we kept pre-meeting formalities to a minimum, because we had Craig Sholley come in to do a presentation and talk on the screw press and early dies first used at the Mint. He had many images and photos that we were able to view courtesy of a projector, screen and laptop that was kindly provided to us by Whitman Coin and Collectibles (just wanted to give them a little plug and also formally thank them for their help and hospitality). It was a very educational presentation, followed by many questions and discussion from those in the room. If you get the chance to attend his talk in the future I would highly recommend it. On behalf of myself and Region 3, thank you Craig. After almost two hours I called the meeting to a close with many staying afterward to continue conversations. It was another great meeting. Look forward to seeing you all in Baltimore at our next Region 3 meeting!

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NEWLY REDESIGNED CLUB WEB SITE

Bill Eckberg called my attention to the fact that we have been remiss in not mentioning the fine job Tom Deck (tom@largecents.net) has put into redesigning the EAC web site. Check it out for yourself at EACS.ORG. And many thanks to Tom for his efforts on behalf of the club!

--the Editor.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Denis W. Loring

EAC members are hereby requested to submit nominations for Club Officers for the 2011-1014 term. The three members of the nominating committee are Jon Warshawsky (jwarshawsky@deloitte.com), chairman; Bill Eckberg (halfcent@mac.com); and Steve Carr (scarr4002@everestkc.net). Nominations may be submitted to any committee member, but must be received by December 31, so that the slate of candidates may be published in, and a ballot included with, the January issue of *Penny-Wise*.

* * * * *

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following persons have applied for membership in EAC since the last issue of *Penny-Wise*. Provided that no adverse comments on any particular individual are received by the Membership Committee before the January issue of *P-W*, all will be declared elected to full membership at that time. Chairman of the Membership Committee is Rod Burrell, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215.

<i>Name</i>	<i>City, State</i>	<i>Member Number</i>
Kevin Wes Olowicz	Wheaton, IL	5911
Jonah Estess	Brooklyn, NY	5912 Jr.
Mark Hammang	Golden, CO	5913
Jesse W. Jaycox	Delmar, NY	5914
Matthew T. Stanek	Hampshire, IL	5915
Garrett Coley	St. Augustine, FL	5916 Jr.
Ryan Delane	Redondo Beach, CA	5917
Oliver Hoover	Burlington, Ontario, Canada	5918
James R. Jackson	Houston, TX	5919
Vincent Urick	Alexandria, VA	5920
Martin Gerard O'Reilly IV	Brooklyn, NY	5921 Jr.
Kenneth Roberts	Winchester, VA	5922
Amatore Mille	Philadelphia, PA	5923
Daniel Aidif	Orlando, FL	5924
Joshua Van Lieu	Seattle, WA	5925
Bill Bickley	Ft. Worth, TX	5926
Kent Whiting	Helena, MT	5927
Barbara C. Bailey	Henrietta, NY	5928
Scott Moore	Bloomington, IN	5929
Russell Nevins	Las Vegas, NV	5930
Chad Nevins	Las Vegas, NV	5931 Jr.
Richard Dalby	Levan, UT	5932
Keith A. Gilbert	Erie, PA	5933

PAPER OR PLASTIC?

Michael S. Shutty Jr.

There has been much talk about slabs. They are encasing our early coppers one by one. But it is the plastic – not the grading – that troubles me!

I recently scored a 1794 S-63 at auction. It was a charming piece with minutely porous fields steeped with red and black toning that contrasted with Ms. Liberty's walnut cheeks. Original surfaces that proclaim a cent's history are to be admired, as her story cannot be rewritten. I believe that unadulterated coins are "perfect" for this reason.

All this was contained in a plastic case that felt light and comfortable in my hand like a playing card. At first, I admired the packaging. It boasted of modernity with its bar code and corporate logo. The label, too, was bold and perfunctory: "1794 cent. Genuine."

As I tapped the plastic and ran my fingers along the edges, my curiosity turned sour. I shook it gently to see if the coin moved, but I fought the urge to drop it on the tabletop to challenge its durability. Suddenly, in a fit of inexplicable defiance, I mashed my oily finger into the circular face where the cent resided. As I watched the moist fingerprint gradually fade from the surface, I began to feel indignant.

What annoyed me during my paroxysm of misbehavior was the mismatch of the slab with the cent contained within. Whereas the cent was rich with significance, the slab reeked of utility! This hunk of acrylic was nothing more than a trading chip! I was angry that the plastic prevented me from experiencing the magic that makes an original timeworn cent "perfect." I could not touch it!

Not knowing quite how to liberate my cent without a hacksaw, I decided to keep it imprisoned for a stretch. What I discovered alarmed me! The slab invited an interaction pattern that was new to me. I could take it out of the bookcase – with soiled hands – and gaze at Ms. Liberty peering back at me through the thick plastic. I could do this even while eating a roast beef sandwich.

The epiphany came one night when entertaining friends. They asked about my collecting, and so I deftly pulled out the encapsulated cent for a round of show and tell. I had become so brazen as to allow the cent to be casually passed about while we picked at cheese and chips like hungry birds. Everyone glanced at the holder: "That's an old one," they said, looking only at the label.

Then it struck me; and my stomach turned. I had allowed the slab to siphon away everything that was magical about this cent. In that moment, I felt as if I was observing this spectacle from behind a thick plastic pane: we were crunching chips and passing this slab around like an idle amusement. No one was really looking at it, as I had not displayed the respect or curatorial decorum that the old cent deserved. Mutely embarrassed, I tucked the slab away.

I reflected on this episode later. What is my responsibility here? Do I really need to take a stand? After all, many of us have experienced the culture of museums where items are juxtaposed with modern fixtures and concession stands. For example, we can view an elegant 18th century slat-backed chair with all the wonderment of aged paint and timeworn balusters

despite it being perched on a plastic stand behind thick Plexiglas. We can admire the chair while devouring a bag of chips.

Should I follow this example? But how can my friends truly appreciate the magic of the cents if I profane them? Had I cleared a corner of the table and carefully brought out a small envelope with inked labeling, I could have created enough suspense to allow even the most incredulous onlooker to be entertained. I could put my curatorial rituals on display by gently sliding out the relic, taking pause to insure that a small cloth protected the cent from the tabletop. I would have held the cent by its edges and allowed others to step up and view it close. Would all of this have made a difference? Does anyone care?

Well, I do. My cents are sacred. They are perfect in their antiquity, and I want to convey this to anyone who is curious – even if their curiosity is fleeting. I acknowledge that my behavior alone will elicit flabbergasted glances among those who do not know me well. Yet, I heartily accept a certain measure of responsibility for this red and black cent of 1794. Yes, it is mine, and I can smash it if I want to; I would be raving mad to do so! No, instead I appreciate that the whole reason for owning this cent is to interact with it in a special way. Otherwise, I would be content to view it in a museum while standing behind a rope, peering through a wall of plastic, and eating chips.

I believe that slabs can shape us to be irreverent and lazy. Slabs demand nothing from us. We can act rudely, turning our cents into commodities if we want. I recognize that slabs can serve a purpose: it is truly embarrassing to chase a rolling coin under the table (I desperately try to avoid this!). But for now, I will liberate my 1794 from this horrid piece of plastic and let it breathe; I will have to finish my sandwich and put the chips away before bringing it out.

I will have to tolerate the muted expressions of impatience when I ritualistically clear the table, lie out the cloth, and gently slide an old cent from a paper envelope for show and tell. I would not have it any other way! I want to handle my coins. I want to show them. But I also want to show a mastery of curatorial skills that can only come from a devotion that, frankly, still mystifies me.

* * * * *

MOTES AND BEAMS

James Higby

I am not one to go around quoting Scripture to people. Nevertheless, I carry with me a number of pithy phrases that originated there, and think of them whenever it might be appropriate. Amazingly enough, it has struck me that one of these ideas can be applied to our relationship with coppers and the people who collect them! Be prepared, then, for a bit of sermonizing of a different sort than you will likely hear at your chosen place of worship.

Take, for example, the story about “Motes and Beams.” It is a critique of people who are quick to point out the tiniest flaw (the motes, or specks of dust, such as float in a ray of sunlight) in the eyes of others, while harboring huge defects (the beams, or logs) in their own. I can’t help thinking of the typical exchange between buyer and seller – you know, the one that involves the attributes of a coin as seen by the respective parties.

When we are trying to sell one of our coins to a dealer or other collector, it is so easy for us to ignore the scratch, the rim ding, the patch of brick-red corrosion, the weakness in part or all of the legend (a convenient excuse to trot out that killer phrase, “as made”), the attempted hole, the bend (always, of course, qualified: it’s a “light” bend), or any one of countless other defects that plague our beloved coppers. We forget that when we acquired this piece long ago, we saw all these issues but loved the coin in spite of its defects and plunked down our hard-earned cash for something less than the ideal. If the Gentle Reader has been at this game for very long at all, he will understand fully that one does not form a very large collection of “mote-free” coppers.

Of course, the buyer sees these things for what they are – beams that lodge immediately in his eye, causing copious redness and watering, each one propelling the price he is willing to pay downward at an often alarming rate. Upon his taking the coin in hand, we can see his first impression, betrayed by the suddenly wrinkled brow, the pursed lips, the squinting eyes, the barely audible but ominous “harrumph,” the silence – always the deafening silence. Whether or not a transaction results from such an encounter depends upon a constellation of emotions that are unique to the two individuals involved.

This scenario plays out in both directions. When we ask a dealer to see a piece that beckons to us from his showcase, we have high hopes that it will be the next treasure we victoriously take home to add to our stash. Now we are the critical ones, taking (preferably silent) notice of all those defects that are certain to be there (the ubiquitous issues that Bill Noyes in his books exhorts us to find, each and every one). Meanwhile, the dealer turns his glance away, hoping to appear to be concentrating on something else, often a price guide, but nevertheless hoping to make a sale, thereby liquidating a piece he may have had in inventory far too long. He, too, is fully aware of the coin’s issues, but usually says nothing, figuring that the buyer will see them all too well. Sometimes it is a miracle that any copper ever changes hands at all.

The same negotiation takes place when collectors get together to examine each other’s coins, be it a friendly visit or a more serious match of whist. How many defects do we see on the other fellow’s coins, versus how many we see on our own? Are we content to enjoy the study of each other’s numismatic accomplishments and foster the friendship, or do we get all critical and attempt to build ourselves and our coins up by tearing the other guy and his coins down? It’s all about moles and beams again, isn’t it?

Consider all this, though, from the point of view of the coppers themselves. They had no say in the esthetics (or lack thereof) of their design, the quality of copper that went into them, their manner of striking, or their subsequent mishandling by disdainful early Americans. They were truly chattel, to be used or abused at the whim of their masters. Their size, shape, and fabric often were exploited by “converting” them for use in some kind of mechanical contraption. Youngsters had their fun “altering” their reverses, or drilling the two holes necessary for threading a loop of string to convert them into spinning buzzsaws.

It’s probably safe to say that the coppers that actually survived the depredations of circulation and other abuse can now look forward to a more comfortable retirement, surrounded by people who love them and take good care of them. No longer do they have to fear being pierced, gouged, or serrated along their edge. No longer do they risk being dropped on the cobblestones or ground into the muck below, facing the horrible fate of eventual copper leprosy. Some of them, I am told, rather enjoy spa treatment with exotic lubricants, emollients, and cleansers, and are allowed to sleep in cushy little cotton beds made especially for their comfort. They care not

about their own motes and beams – their owners may be aware of them, but never mention them in their presence. Oh, to be an early American copper in the loving hands of an EAC member! Oh, to hear that other famous Scriptural phrase they had hoped to hear way back when they were MS65RD: “Well done, good and faithful servant!”

* * * * *

OVERDUE RECOGNITION AND RESPECT FOR DUPLICATE LARGE CENT COLLECTIONS AND ACCUMULATIONS

Howard Spencer Pitkow

INTRODUCTION: Most of the previous twelve articles I authored for *P-W* have primarily concentrated on my half and large cent variety collections including interesting rare finds and discoveries. As far as I know, no one has written about their duplicate copper collections for our journal. It is a complete mystery to me why some copper specialists seem to ignore discussing their duplicate large or half cent coppers. The goal and purpose of this thirteenth paper for *P-W* is to give recognition and respect to all those obscure duplicate large cent collections and accumulations. Many of these have been hidden in the dark recesses of coin boxes in the back of a safe or scattered indiscriminately in various locations throughout the house.

BACKGROUND: Most of the time these overlooked duplicate coppers have not been attributed. Therefore, one can hardly call them a duplicate “collection” since they fit the perfect definition of an “accumulation.” So, whenever I have referred to my duplicate large cents in my previous *P-W* articles as a collection, I was in error since they were only graded and NOT attributed. Hence, they were just an accumulation. For years I put off the tedious process of attributing my duplicates. They remained on the “back burner.” Finally, I couldn’t wait any longer and decided to “bite the bullet.”

Consequently, during the months of March and April of 2010, I spent endless hours attributing all the duplicate large cents in my accumulation in order to convert them into a collection. Many times I would start either late at night or very early in the morning by isolating myself in my upstairs office—sometimes attributing until the early morning hours of the next day. Once I got started I found it very difficult to stop. As the hours passed, instead of getting fatigued, I seemed to get more invigorated and engrossed in this undertaking. I guess the adrenalin was flowing during this “labor of love.”

Duplicate coppers usually are of a lower grade than one’s primary variety collection. Since my duplicates were no different, I found it took me more time on average to attribute each copper. The obvious reason for this is their advanced state of wear from excessive treatment and handling while in circulation. Finally, by mid-April of 2010, about a week before the EAC convention (Annapolis), I finished the attribution process of my 373 duplicates. This labor-intensive process had taken me six weeks to complete.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

AUTHOR’S NOTE: In the following discussion involving Tables 2, 3 and 5 the reader will note that I have ARBITRARILY classified the graded distribution range of my coppers as high (VF-AU), middle (G-F) and low grade (Poor-AG).

In Table 1 the reader can observe my duplicate large cent totals by year in the three copper cent classifications. This includes 32 early dates, 171 middle dates and 170 late dates. It should be noted that seven of the 32 early dates (22%), 28 of the 171 middle dates (16%) and 10 of the 170 late dates (6%) were unattributable. This was caused by their advanced wear which affected their diagnostic features. Therefore, 45 of the 373 total (12%) were unattributable. Hence only 328 of my duplicate large cents could be classified as a “collection.”

In Table 2 the membership can note that of the 32 duplicate early dates, none are high grade, 11 are middle grade, and 21 are low grade. When we consider the 171 duplicate middle dates, only one is high grade (and that only VF), 136 are middle grade, and 34 are low grade. As for the 171 duplicate late dates, 12 are high grade (all VF-EF), 142 are middle grade, and 16 are low grade.

When analyzing the grade distribution data between these three groups of large cents in Table 2 some definite trends become obvious. There is basically no difference in the percentage of high grade cents (VF-EF) between the early date and middle date coppers. However, there is a significant increase between the early and middle dates when compared to the late date (7%) cents. As for the middle grade coppers (G-F), approximately one third (34%) of the early date cents fall into this category which then increases dramatically in both the middle dates (79%) and late dates (84%). When we look at the low grade cents (Poor-AG) there is an inverse relationship in low grade totals as we pass from early dates through the middle and late date cents. That is, the low grade copper percentages significantly decrease as we ascend from the early dates (66%) to middle dates (20%) and eventually to 9% in the late dates (Table 2).

As with my primary large cent collection (817 varieties consisting of 209 early dates, 242 middle dates and 366 late dates), these results can easily be explained since the late date cents (1840-1857) are both the least worn and the youngest group, whereas the early dates (1793-1814) are the oldest group in age and show the most wear from circulation. Therefore, my duplicate early date cents have the lowest percentage of upper grade coppers (0%) and the greatest percentage of low grade cents (66%) (Table 2). On the other hand, my duplicate late date cents have the highest percentage (7%) of upper grade coppers and the lowest percentage of low grade pieces (9%). As for the middle date coppers, their wear and tear from circulation generally appears to be between that of the early and late date cents.

In Table 3 I have summarized my duplicate large cent grade distribution. This serves as an addendum to Table 2. The reader will note that my 373 duplicate large cents (including 45 unattributable coppers) consists of 13 (4%) high grade (VF-EF), 289 (77%) middle grade (G-F) and 71 (19%) low grade (Poor-AG) coppers.

When the rarity scale values (Table 4) are considered, the reader will observe that of the 328 total duplicates there are 260 R1 or R2 (79%), 45 R3 (14%), 16 R4 (5%) and seven R5 (2%). When these totals are further subdivided, for the early dates the relative numbers are 19 R1 or R2, five R3 and one R4 for a total of 25. For the middle date duplicates there are 124 R1 or R2, 15 R3, three R4 and one R5 for a total of 143. For the late dates one can observe there are 117 R1 or R2, 25 R3, 12 R4 and six R5. Obviously, the collective number of rarities decreases progressively as we ascend the rarity scale, an inverse relationship.

Also, this same trend applies when we compare the rarity scale (R1 to R5) to each of the early, middle and late date copper categories. For the early dates the numbers progressively decrease from 19 (R1 or R2) to five (R3) and eventually only one R4 and no R5's. This trend is

also evident in the middle dates, where the numbers are 124 (R1 or R2), 15 R3's, three R4's and one R5, as well as for the late date numbers of 117 (R1 or R2), 25 R3's, 12 R4's and six R5's.

Contrary to above inverse relationship tendencies there is a direct positive relationship between each one of the four rarity rating groups as we ascend each of the three large cent entities. This is exhibited for the R1-R2 (19, 124, 117), R3 (5, 15, 25), R4 (1, 3, 12 and R5 (0, 1, 6) which generally increases in the early, middle and late date large cent groupings.

In order for the reader to gain an additional perspective, it should be noted that, among these duplicate cents, there are 23 R4 or R5 (7%) (Table 4). If we include the R3 group this number increases to 68 (21%) of the 328 total. The remaining 260 duplicates are R1 or R2.

In Table 5 I have compared the grade distribution percentages between my original large cent collection (November, 2009 *P-W* article) to these 373 duplicates (Table 2). When we look at the early dates, my collection middle grade (G-F) percentage is twice (69%) that of these duplicates (34%). However, when we consider the low grade (Poor-AG) category the opposite is true. Here, the duplicate low grade percentage (66%) is twice that of the original collection group (30%). As for the middle dates, there is only a 10% difference between the middle grades (G-F) of these two collections (89% versus 79%). The obvious significant difference occurs in the low grade (Poor-AG) category of the middle dates, where the duplicates are four times (20%) higher than in my original collection (5%) (Table 5). The most striking difference occurs in the late dates where the percentage of high grade (VF-AU) cents in my original collection is significantly higher (33%) when compared to the duplicates (7%). In fact this 33% total was several times higher than any other high grade group, original or duplicate. The late date middle grade (G-F) duplicates were 19% higher (84%) than the original collection (65%). As for the low grade late dates there was a much higher percentage of duplicates (9%) whereas the original collection was by far the lowest of all the other groups at only 2%.

In Table 6, I have compared my original large cent variety and duplicate collections as to the rarity scale (R4, R5) distributions. The reader will note that in the early, middle and late date categories there is a significant increase in R4 and R5 large cents in the original large cent variety group when compared to the duplicate groups. The differences are staggering and self evident. For the three large cent category totals (R4 and R5) the ratios are 55:1 (early dates), 47:4 (middle dates) and 93:18 (late dates), respectively.

SUMMARY: Only 328 of my 373 total duplicate large cents (88%) are attributable. These constitute my duplicate "collection." The other 45 copper duplicates remain an "accumulation" since they are unattributable. This paper is dedicated to all those duplicate large cent collections and accumulations that have been ignored and relegated to second class status. It is my fervent hope that this article will encourage ALL EAC'ers to have respect for their duplicate coppers and regard them with high esteem. (I have purposely omitted one rare duplicate large cent (R6-) from the discussion and tables in this publication. In a future article for *P-W* I will discuss this surprise rare middle date variety that I found amongst my newly attributed duplicate large cents.)

TABLE 1

DUPLICATE LARGE CENT ATTRIBUTION TOTALS BY YEAR		
EARLY DATE (22)	MIDDLE DATE (24)	LATE DATE (18)
1793 – 0	1816 – 2	1840 – 6
1794 – 0	1817 – 11 (2X)	1841 – 5
1795 – 1	1818 – 10 (4X)	1842 – 11 (1X)
1796 – 0	1819 – 6 (4X)	1843 – 8
1797 – 2	1820 – 5	1844 – 8
1798 – 6 (2X)	1821 – 1	1845 – 8
1799 – 0	1822 – 5 (3X)	1846 – 11
1800 – 4 (1X)	1823 – 1	1847 – 13 (1X)
1801 – 2 (1X)	1824 – 2	1848 – 17 (2X)
1802 – 1 (1X)	1825 – 3 (1X)	1849 – 13
1803 – 3 (1X)	1826 – 9	1850 – 9
1804 – 0	1827 – 3	1851 – 22 (3X)
1805 – 1	1828 – 8 (1X)	1852 – 9
1806 – 1	1829 – 2	1853 – 11 (1X)
1807 – 3 (1X)	1830 – 2	1854 – 8 (1X)
1808 – 1	1831 – 10 (1X)	1855 – 3
1809 – 1	1832 – 4	1856 – 7 (1X)
1810 – 1	1833 – 9	1857 – 1
1811 – 1	1834 – 7	
1812 – 2	1835 – 11 (1X)	
1813 – 1	1836 – 5	
1814 – 1	1837 – 25 (5X)	
	1838 – 22 (4X)	
	1839 – 8 (2X)	
TOTAL = 32 X = 7 of 32 = 22%	TOTAL = 171 X = 28 of 171 = 16%	TOTAL = 170 X = 10 of 170 = 6%

X = unattributable large cents (45 ÷ 373 = 12%)

TABLE 2

DUPLICATE LARGE CENT GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND PERCENTAGES ^a		
EARLY DATES	MIDDLE DATES	LATE DATES
EF – 0	EF – 0	EF – 2
VF – 0	VF – 1 Total 1 = 1%	VF – 10 Total 12 = 7%
F – 0	F – 0	F – 40
VG – 0 Total 11 = 34%	VG – 70 T. 136 = 79%	VG – 72 T. 142 = 84%
G – 11	G – 66	G – 30
AG – 15	AG – 25	AG – 11
Fr – 4 Total 21 = 66%	Fr – 7 Total 34 = 20%	Fr – 4 Total 16 = 9%
Pr – 2	Pr – 2	Pr – 1
TOTAL = 32	TOTAL = 171	TOTAL = 170

^a includes 45 unattributable large cents (TOTAL = 373)

TABLE 3**SUMMARY OF DUPLICATE LARGE CENT GRADE DISTRIBUTION ^a**

EF – 2
 VF – 11 Total 13 = 4%
 F – 40
 VG - 142 Total 289 = 77%
 G – 107
 AG – 51
 Fr – 15 Total 71 = 19%
 Pr – 5

TOTAL – 373 = 100%

^a includes 45 unattributable large cents

TABLE 4**DUPLICATE LARGE CENT RARITY SCALE DISTRIBUTION ^{a b}**

RARITY	R 1/2	R3	R4	R5	TOTAL
EARLY DATES	19	5	1	0	25
MIDDLE DATES	124	15	3	1	143
LATE DATES	117	25	12	6	160
TOTAL	260	45	16	7	328
PERCENTAGE	79	14	5	2	100

^a R4+5 = 23 = 7%

^b R3, 4+5 = 68 = 21%

TABLE 5

COMPARISON OF GRADE DISTRIBUTION PERCENTAGES BETWEEN ORIGINAL AND DUPLICATE LARGE CENT COLLECTIONS						
GRADE DISTRIBUTION	EARLY DATE (%)		MIDDLE DATE (%)		LATE DATE (%)	
	ORIGINAL^a	DUPLICATE	ORIGINAL^a	DUPLICATE	ORIGINAL^a	DUPLICATE
HIGH GRADE (VF – AU)	1	0	6	1	33	7
MIDDLE GRADE (G – F)	69	34	89	79	65	84
LOW GRADE (Pr – AG)	30	66	5	20	2	9

^a Revised data from November 2009 *Penny-Wise* article on original large cent variety analysis
(Vol. XLIII, No. 6, Issue #255)

TABLE 6

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND DUPLICATE LARGE CENT RARITY SCALE DISTRIBUTION						
RARITY SCALE	EARLY DATE		MIDDLE DATE		LATE DATE	
	ORIGINAL^a	DUPLICATE	ORIGINAL^a	DUPLICATE	ORIGINAL^a	DUPLICATE
R4	32	1	37	3	51	12
R5	23	0	10	1	42	6
TOTAL	55	1	47	4	93	18

^a Revised data from November 2009 *Penny-Wise* article on original large cent variety analysis
(Vol. XLIII, No. 6, Issue #255)

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ANNOUNCING ANOTHER COMPLETE SHELDON NUMBER SET

Tom Reynolds

When a collector is first attracted to early copper, it is usually due to working on a type set or date set. If the "copper bug" bites, the collector may go on to Red Book varieties or specialize in a given year. Or the collector may collect all the varieties of the Early Dates, Middle Dates or

Late Dates. A small group of individuals may attempt the very difficult task of acquiring all 302 of the Sheldon numbered varieties (excluding NC's).

It is my pleasure to announce that Adam Mervis of Decatur, IL, and his son Alec, have joined this "small group" by recently purchasing a S-37. The collection was formed with the help and guidance of Greg Hannigan of Royal Palm Beach, FL. Congratulations to all three in completing this collection in a very short period of time!!!!

* * * * *

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY FROM THE SLABBERS

Jack D. Young

Introduction: I know I have several character flaws including my affection for 1794 large cents and my insistence they be "certified" (a subject of discussion for another time). I recently purchased an interesting S-28 documented as on an "oversized planchet" with a provenance known back to 1989, having traded hands through several prominent EAC members and dealers since. The coin was sent to ANACS to be certified as a mint error, and came back slabbed as damaged/ "flattened"; so begins the saga...

The S-28 came back from ANACS as "F 12 DETAILS- FLATTENED." I was immediately taken aback and sent a note to Paul DeFelice asking for an explanation. He promptly responded explaining that both of the authenticators agreed "that the coin is an alteration." He also noted that the "coin's weight is correct," and the large planchet was definitely the result of "flattening." Very interesting, and an opportunity to learn I think, as I consider my next steps.

I initially sent e-mails to the last two EACers to handle the coin, one the latest seller, the other the previous owner and friend of the writer. Both were steadfast that the coin was authentic and offered compelling arguments towards that side of the discussion. Besides, the seller offered that the two together probably have over 50 years of expert early copper experience. There was also some apparent indignation raised over even sending the coin to a 3rd party, but that's back to the character flaw part of the discussion!

I may have stepped on some toes during this, although it certainly wasn't my intent – slabbers and experts (and novices like me) are documented to make mistakes, and again I was looking at this as a learning experience and part of my fascination with these early cents.

From here I took the discussion to another long time EACer who was shown as owning this coin back in 1989. He remembered the coin, and assured me it was entirely a mint made product. In regards to standard weights and diameters of planchets he stated that with early copper there were "standards" but expediency occasionally dictated deviation from those standards. Supplies of blanks from England were not always reliable, and blanks made in America were often offered on a "take it or leave it" basis. Rather than idle the mint while waiting for prime materials, they used planchets which varied in both diameter and weight. Some large cent varieties were made entirely on oversized planchets. He went on to state that the edge lettering on the early date cents was impressed into the planchets as a separate operation, in a device known as a Castaing machine. The blank planchet was rolled between two edge dies, which made the letters. Then the edge-lettered planchet was struck as usual, without a collar. Even

identical planchets would therefore end up as coins of slightly varying diameter. He suggested review of the edge lettering spacing; given that the edge is lettered first, if the planchet started out normally-sized, and then struck to increase its diameter, the circumference would be larger and the letters "squished and spaced farther apart than normal." Again, more facts to consider, along with his final thought that "flattening " a coin would grossly distort the raised areas, and this certainly does not appear to be the case with this coin.

Weight: 199.5 Grains Diameter: 30.0 mm



Photo through the courtesy of Shawn Yancey

At this point I was faced with what appeared to be a rather formidable term, *bifurcation*. He went on to state that it refers to the way the peripheral lettering is distorted. Looking at the word LIBERTY, the letters have notches at the bottoms of their vertical components caused by the failure of the outward-bound metal to completely fill the punchings in the die. "Aha!" I thought, maybe this notion is in line with the seller's comments about the original planchet being too thin to properly strike up...

My friend suggested ultimately sending the coin to Bob Grellman for his opinion as well, and that seemed to be the next logical step. So off to Florida it headed, and upon receipt and review Bob offered the following observations and evaluations:

- "Weight 199.5 grains vs the standard of 208.0 grains--normal for the grade."
- "Diameter 30.0 mm vs the standard of 28.6. Although the diameter and weight for 1794 cents varies quite a bit, the diameter of your cent is clearly larger than normal."
- "This cent was not flattened but the exact cause of the odd strike and increased diameter are not apparent. The smeared letters near the dentils are consistent with a piece that was broadstruck or one that was struck on a planchet that had already been struck, thereby hardening the copper (strike hardening). Take a look at the letters near the dentils, particularly the horizontal elements in LIBERTY. They did not strike up at all. I see this all the time on pieces struck on spoiled planchets. Look at 1795 C-5b and C-6b half cents. They all have this effect, including the weakly struck date. Look at lot 394 in Holmes III.

Same thing. The increased diameter leads me to believe your piece was struck more than once, probably by the S-28 dies, rather than struck on a hardened planchet." Bob went on to add "the edge lettering appeared normal with the possible exception of being ever-so-slightly 'stretched out' from the planchet being enlarged by the extra strikes."

"Bottom line: Your cent is not damaged but is '*as struck*' in my opinion."- Bob Grellman

Bob continued with "But don't ever expect slab graders to confirm this stuff. They really don't want the liability that comes with an out-of-the-box decision." This turned out to be more prophetic than I initially thought!

My next step was to send a note with Bob's evaluation back to Paul and ANACS. He replied with an acknowledgment of the info presented and a suggestion I send the coin back for further review with his guys and maybe have a few "consultants" take a look as well, all at no charge, of course. So now the lowly world traveling S-28 was headed back to Colorado.

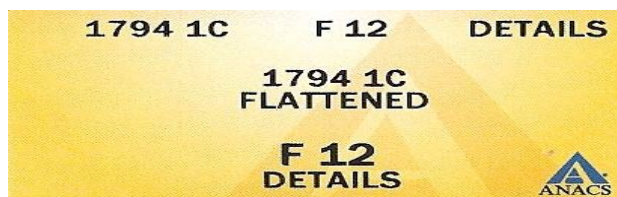
Apparently the coin "morphed" in the journey, as I immediately received a new status of grade "N8" through their webpage. For those unfamiliar with this designation (including the writer) their FAQ page indicates it as:

Other Grade Designations Used	
GH (Genuine)	PV (PVC)
N8 (Non-eligible- wrong size for encapsulation, not something we grade, corrosion that is not PVC)	N9 (altered coin, not genuine, questionable authenticity, etc)

Per ANACS the grader's notes read: "With all respect to Bob Grellman, whose expertise with early U.S. copper is acknowledged by ANACS, we do not believe that this coin is a mint error. In our opinion the oversize diameter is the result of post-strike damage of some kind," and the coin was returned this time raw.

And the "bottom line"? It probably goes back to the beginning and the seller's comments in regards to owning this unique piece of copper- "The coin is NOT 'flattened'--it is on an extra large planchet, which they probably do not understand. The extra large planchet is what I loved about it." And a "final" note offered up; ***"Early copper gives up its secrets very begrudgingly, and there may be no final answer on this one!"***

P.S.: One of the EACers who contributed to this piece left as his last thought (just for fun?) to consider a different grading service. And just maybe, the saga continues...Thanks to all who contributed to this adventure; you know who you are and I appreciate it!



* * * * *

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Alex Bareiss writes,

Finally, an excellent reference work with real examples of early American copper error coins!

The Dan Holmes Collection Part III/Davy Collection auction catalog is a landmark work in one of the most underappreciated and undervalued areas of today's early American coppers market. Not since the Arconti Collection has there been such an important opportunity to research and acquire these rarely offered and often unique coins.

It is sad that these collections must be broken up through auction sale and not sold to one person or institution, where they could provide an ongoing educational opportunity for the copper collecting community. Sources of information and examples of early American copper errors are so widely scattered and information so general in nature, it can get frustrating.

I placed bids on more than 20 of these error coins. It was a truly unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Editor's Note: Alex's letter was received when the September issue of *P-W* was in-press. For additional perspectives on this sale, please see "From the Internet" in this issue. Seeing some of the comments therein, I have to wonder—how many, if any, of Alex's 20 bids were successful?

* * * * *

FROM THE INTERNET

Gene Anderson

NEW MEMBERS

Joining since our last report were **Jesse Jaycox, Greg Hannigan, Pete Mosiondz, and Ron Illian**. Region 8 now has 408 members and many of them are talking up a copper streak! How about joining in next time?

EAC 2011

Nathan Markowitz sent greetings from Oregon. He wanted to make his copper colleagues aware that the new and revived weekly JRCS newsletter is now available at jrnewsletter@jrcs.org. Now you can all see the shiny silver side of collecting to counterbalance your copper fix. As an added benefit, you will get to hear Nathan shamelessly promoting next year's EAC convention on two sites! Speaking of next year's EAC convention, Nathan will shortly be submitting to *Penny-Wise* the initial announcement. Nathan will entice you with a brief preview: The Portland EAC show runs Thursday May 12—Sunday May 15, 2011 in Portland, OREGON (don't show up in Maine!) at the Doubletree Hotel at Lloyd Center. The schedule out shortly will mirror prior convention schedules. Nathan is excited to note that the bourse floor is HUGE. Please bring your displays, copper or silver, as there is plenty of room. He also needs speakers: please contact him at cascades1787@yahoo.com to offer to speak or discuss

a topic. We are working to make this a true "destination" show so those of you can bring family members and enjoy the spectacular natural surroundings. May is peak flower season and the waterfalls and flowers are on overdrive. The coast is 1.5 hours away, the waterfalls 30 minutes, and downhill skiing is still available at Mt. Hood. We have a wine tasting tour arranged Thursday between copper grading and reception. We are working on a waterfall tour or a garden tour for Saturday morning; please think this over; we will have an email address for you shortly so we can get a sense of what is most popular. Finally, the convention hotel is close to all sorts of food and beer. We will put together a list of suggested restaurants and as microbrew capitol you will need a one-way ticket to sample all the beers. Finally, don't forget to look at some copper (or silver) while you are here (probably don't need this line). We look forward to hosting everyone next May.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Howard Aubin reported that he was watching the coppers on eBay and up came a listing for a large cent. It looked like the only difference between this coin and another large cent was that the first was being sold as original and the second coin was marked replica. He had contacted both the seller and eBay and got no response from the seller and just an automatic email response from eBay. Someone was going to spend over \$150 for this fake. It angers Howard when he sees these China replicas being sold as originals. Perhaps we should consider C (China) numbers instead. Maybe C with some identification number for the makers in China. Howard had a follow-up to his earlier post. He wanted to follow up on the counterfeit 1818 large cent discussed above. The seller contacted Howard three days after the sale. Howard had requested to cancel the transaction, explaining that the coin was a China counterfeit. The seller said that he had thought it was a N7, but on closer examination discovered that Howard was correct and canceled the transaction. He said that he is going to take it back to the individual that sold him the coin. He actually seemed like a very nice guy that just got stuck. On a different note, Howard picked up an 1817 N4, 1817 N9, and 1818 N3, all VF+, and one very nice Fine 1839/6 N1 LDS. The N9 was the only one that came from eBay. It is just too difficult to find nice collectable copper on eBay.

John Wright comments on the same coin. This is exactly the 'coin' about which he warned us about several months ago in both Region 8 and in *Penny-Wise*. The original from which these transfer dies (without date) were made is an 1833 N5. John has also added a paragraph about this to the insert that goes out in each copy sold of *The CENT Book - 1816-1839*. The following is John's addition:

"6. Page I-11: New Topic: (First brought to my attention by Beth Deisher and Michael Fahey, who have written extensively in *Coin World* on this topic; and by Bart Woloson, who was excited about discovering a "new variety of 1818 cent"): CHINESE COUNTERFEITS. Beginning 2008 or before, the Chinese have been exporting better-and-better counterfeits of US coins of all types. So far the Chinese large cents I have seen have been rather unsophisticated, but I expect their newer products to become more and more deceptive. On their current Matron Head products, the date is hand-cut and does not "look right." The host coin used to produce these dies is an XF 33-5 (small-letter reverse). I have seen these in grades from F through red "MS," and as every date from 1815 thru 1839, always with the old pre-1836 broad-bust head style. Another fake-family has a low-relief head and large-letter reverse. Some are stamped "COPY" or "REPLICA" but many are ****NOT**** so marked. The primary into-the-market conduit for these

counterfeits is eBay. The Chinese are making EVERY date of US large cent from 1793 through 1857 -- often with the wrong head-style or letter-size. Your collection could add two more 1839 heads (for a new total of 7!): "Type of 1834" and "Type of 1844". Of course, these new two do not come with an obverse bisecting crack (yet -- but be patient: these Chinese are mighty clever!)."

Bob Fagaly said thanks for the information on Chinese Counterfeits. He didn't realize that they had counterfeited every large cent date. Parenthetically, he just got back a VF-35 (in his opinion) 1795 draped bust, small eagle dollar from PCGS in a "Questionable Authenticity - the coin is most likely a counterfeit" body bag. It was good enough to fool Bob and the dealer he purchased it from. Luckily for Bob, the dealer is going to take it back at Long Beach in two weeks. Bob asks that with the profusion of Chinese counterfeits, would it make sense to post images on the EAC website showing images of known counterfeits and diagnostics? To keep from tipping off counterfeiters, have it in a Members Only section.

[The problem is that anyone who has access could copy the pictures and pass them around. It isn't possible to prevent this, because anyone can do a screen capture, even if you protect the images so they can't be directly downloaded from the net.]

Red Henry gave Region 8 a heads up about a misattributed coin on eBay. After some prodding, the seller closed the sale out early. Thanks, Red.

Shawn Yancey wanted to let Region 8 know that there is a new 1796 S-106 floating around that has been expertly holed and plugged. He bought the coin off eBay, and after receiving it, was able to detect an expertly repaired hole at ER in LIBERTY and thru the last zero and lower denticles on the reverse. The work is absolutely incredible, and it took him a long time to believe what he was seeing. But the clues are all there, specifically: the top of the R was not constructed properly because the top serif is too long and pronounced; there is new copper on the edge at the corresponding plug location where new metal was blended with old; the denticle to bottom right of last zero in the fraction is the wrong shape and size, and visibly "recut" for lack of a better word. Additionally, the coin has been darkly toned around the area of the plug, and the repaired letters are much clearer and sharper than the original letters. At first glance, the coin looks wonderful, but closer inspection confirms the repair. That being said, the work is incredible and Shawn thinks it would fool a lot of people, maybe even the grading services. Shawn could not locate this example in *NumiStudy*, or match it to any holed coins in *NumiStudy*.

Bill Maryott wrote that Shawn Yancey reported a rather nice 1796 S-106 that had a repaired hole that was quite well done and could have and would have deceived many, perhaps even the grading services. Bill thinks it's wonderful to see a dealer with the integrity to bring this to our attention. This coin could very easily continue to move from collector to collector and not be noticed as an altered coin. Many of you know that Bill maintains a database of eBay coins since 1999 that he uses for research purposes. This coin that Shawn brought to our attention was sold on February 19, 2006 for \$1150 on eBay. He has no idea where it's been since then. Perhaps a "hot potato" being moved from dealer-to-dealer or collector-to-collector. Since the population of better-graded early dates is quite small, Bill thinks it's important that a data record be kept not only of the best coins, but also altered coins that appear to be unaltered. Also, as the Chinese get better with their fakes, and you can be sure they will, it will be nice to know you have an authentic coin rather than a "very well done" altered or fake coin. If you think that eBay is somehow interested in keeping the integrity of their venue free of altered coins and fakes, you

better think again. They have demonstrated time and again, they are there for the “money” and only the money.

Jack Young wrote that he is still looking for decent pictures of some of the coins for the 1794 CC#1 listing on MyEACS.org. Several coins residing in the ANS collection (S27, S-29, S-34, S-43, S-53 & S-72) have pictures of the obverse side showing on the ANS web site. Jack just couldn't negotiate their fees for actual use of higher resolution pictures to a reasonable rate!

Tom Deck writes that last month he received an email from Barry Sloate, a dealer in vintage sportscards from Brooklyn, NY, who has purchased coins from Tom before. Back in 2008 Barry purchased a collection of 200+ unattributed large cents. Two years later he gets around to attributing a particular coin from the collection, and finds out it's an S-217! This is the rarest Sheldon-numbered draped bust variety at R6+. Barry asks if Tom's interested in this coin, and they work out a deal for it. S-217 is noted for LIBERTY positioned far right of the normal position, with major injury (incuse denticles) over BERTY, paired with the normal reverse of S-216. This is truly a variety Tom figured he'd never own, due to its rarity, and the fact that when they are offered they go for big bucks. Tom sent the coin to Bob Grellman for grading (and more importantly, authentication,) and he called it a F12 net VG10 for obverse marks. This completes a Sheldon set of 1801 cents for Tom. As of this writing Tom is down to needing one Sheldon-numbered variety from 1797 to 1814, the 1803 large date, small fraction S-264.

Greg Heim reported that work on the 2nd edition *Quickfinder* is progressing nicely. Greg has to photograph a Massachusetts Half cent collection, and one small edge letter 1794. The text of the work is almost ready for editing.

Bill Eckberg wrote a few brief comments on the Davy/Holmes Error Auction by the Goldbergs. The auction was unprecedented for the number and variety of early copper error coins offered at one time, so nobody was sure what to expect. The consignor of the Davy collection told Bill he thought the estimates were too high. Others suggested they were too low. Bill had no idea what to think. Large cent errors had been sold before, particularly from the Michael Arconti collection (a number of the Arconti coins were offered again in the Holmes Collection). To the best of Bill's knowledge, the Jerry Kochel collection was only significant collection of half cent errors that had sold at auction before, but it didn't contain the depth and variety of errors that the Davy Collection had. As it turned out, the prices for the half cent errors were much higher than most expected. Those for the large cent errors were high, but not as high. However, what this might do to the future market for such coins is unclear. There were many frustrated bidders in the room, because a man who was previously unknown to the EACers who was present, and is not a copper collector, bought a very large number of lots and didn't seem to care what he paid for them. The consignors had to be ecstatic, as the hammer for the errors was an unexpected million dollars. It would be useful for the EAC community if one or more of the dealers who were there will provide a professional and insightful analysis the sale.

Kirk Thomas commented on the Davy/Holmes sale. The "unwelcome" bidder that Bill Eckberg mentioned ruined the evening for Kirk and many that he talked with after the event. On the brighter side - Kirk did nail a single "souvenir" from the Holmes portion of the sale and was fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of Shawn Yancey - whom Kirk shared a table with throughout the aforementioned debacle, and thank him for the kind repartee and banter throughout an otherwise painful and discouraging nine hours of frustration. On to the greater good of thanking Dan for hosting the swell soiree that followed the auction!!! It certainly helped

to alleviate the sting from the aforementioned sale. It is always a treat to see and chat with "The Man." Then Kirk made the following first hand report with deadly earnestness:

"First off - I have to tell you that the description of the Davy/Holmes error sale as being a bloodletting was very appropriate. After checking to see if the cuts and bruises from that event were sufficiently healed, I headed out on a lark and a hunch to a relatively local bid board that I had probably not been to in over a year. First coin I looked at was a somewhat misattributed 1800 that was actually an 1800/798. Far better reverse than obverse, I'd guess at an 8+ on the reverse and a 3-4 on the obverse, but pretty tough to tell in the scratched up flip and bad retail lighting reflectivity issues. I looked over my shoulder, to the left, and to the right. I re-hung the coin and walked outside to check the streets and sidewalks. Clear. I walked back in and wrote my bid on the card with a degree of bravado. That done, I stepped outside for a wee bit of cigar time before the board closed. Back inside with minutes to go - ALLRIGHT! - still no Paul #362! I won something with no effort! Could it really be true? It was! Alas, I'm not THAT sharp to be able to make on the fly attributions, so I will have to wait a while to go claim my booty and see what I actually have. I thought that making note of the few things that I did would aid in the diagnostic - especially what looked like a die chip at the outer apex of the C in America would have helped, but another bit of fun for another day :) This EAC Member Service Announcement brought to you by the Davy/Homes Errors Survivor Board, which reminds you all that you CAN still purchase fun things without impossible uphill battles."

Bill Eckberg offered another comment on the sale. He had picked up several of Dan Holmes' pieces from his earlier auctions, so he was mostly after half cents that afternoon. He had let the consignor of the Davy collection know that he hoped to get one of his brockages and planned – by any means necessary – to get lot #314, the 50% off-center 1825 C2 that he had once sent Bill to photograph for an article Bill did for *P-W*. After Bill won it, he turned to the consigner and his wife and gave a smile and a "thumbs-up" sign. Both mouthed how sorry they were that it had gone so high. But the next two lots were also off-center 1825 C2s, though not as far off-center as the one Bill won, and both went noticeably higher. Bill turned to them and said, "Apparently it was a bargain!" Bill also picked up one of the reverse brockage half cents. There were three in the sale and apparently no others are known for the entire series! It was almost worth the cost of the trip to LA to have been able to watch "Mr. and Mrs. Davy," who appeared to be having the time of their lives. Fortunately for Bill's saintly and long-suffering bride, they did pack in enjoyable side trips to Hollywood, the still-bubbling La Brea Tar Pits and the Huntington Library gardens, as well as two trips to the beach and one for shopping in Santa Monica's new mall; plus a couple strolls along Rodeo Drive. Bill was also fortunate to pick up one of several reverse brockage 1817 large cents. This coin was from the Davy collection, unlike most of the rest of the large cents in the sale. Bill got the three general things he wanted – a full brockage half cent and large cent, plus the aforementioned 1825 C2 50% o/c, but Bill hoped to get a few more. He was the under bidder on at least a half dozen lots, but of course, Bill had no way to guess whether one or two more increments would have gotten the other guy to quit, so he stuck to his bid sheet except in one case. Next to one obverse brockage large cent lot Bill had written only: "buy it!" Alas, he was again the under bidder. He held off completely on several half cent lots that he could see a gentleman from Texas was determined to own. He owes me, and Bill is not forgetting it! Lesson learned: in the past, Bill has almost never bid at auctions in person, because he was always afraid he'd get auction fever and overbid. After Holmes I and III and Davy, Bill now knows that he CAN resist the lust of auction fever and is capable of bidding in auctions

without bankrupting himself and his fabulous wife. If only she also understood that he had developed this wonderful skill!

Jamey Price wrote that like many of you, he got totally destroyed at the Davy sale. Congratulations to the consignor as the end result must have been fairly satisfying. Unfortunately, Jamey couldn't be there to modify his strategy, so he didn't get anything he was after. He is going to redirect his sale money to working on the varieties he needs. His goal is 90 or more varieties.

Daniel O'Brien asked, for those who are not "in the know," would someone please elaborate a little on what happened at the Homes III/Davy auction? The last Newsletter made it sound like (1) prices were pretty strong and (2) there may have been one or more buyers committed to purchasing coppers at any price. This is fascinating stuff, but some members do not have the knowledge or the background to know whether (a), they have interpreted the Newsletter comments correctly; or (b), what this means for copper collectors. It seems as though prices for decent large cents are getting out of reach (for those of modest means) fairly quickly. If Daniel's observation is correct, this could be because investors spooked by the instability in the equities market are starting to pour more money into more tangible investments (Daniel read that somewhere, but doesn't usually talk like that). However, as confidence in the stock market increases with the recovery, it would seem logical that these same investors may start liquidating their collections (unless, God forbid, they are both investors and collectors). Long term, those currently priced out of the market could get another crack at these coins, if they are patient enough. Of course, it could simply be that coppers are just starting to get the attention they deserve and that some collectors will never own a 1793 chain cent.

Tom Deck wrote that recently the Goldbergs sold a new discovery of the extremely rare 1795 S-79, Reeded Edge large cent, at the Long Beach auction. According to the catalog, this coin was called G4+ Average, by Bill Noyes. An EAC buddy of mine and I have questioned whether this coin should be called "Average." Here's a summary of the message he sent me concerning this: "I thought that EAC grading, where Bill Noyes is as strict as they come, NEVER considers rarity or market value when assigning sharpness, net grade and condition. A net G4+ average for this coin seems impossible under EAC grading. Or am I mistaken - particularly for rare coins - does the Choice/A+/Average/A-/Scudzy designation take into account the known population for the variety (and maybe even the die state)? I went back and read the 19th edition of *CQR* pages 4, 5 and 6. Interesting that JHR mentions WCN in this section for S-1 through S-91. To my surprise, JHR does leave some room open for not calling this coin 'scudzy'. A quote - 'This area is up for grabs in negotiation.... Everything has a value.' Another quote says: 'The REAL ISSUE being applied relates to the marketability of the piece.' Tom's response: IMHO, rarity as a factor in condition makes no sense. Or die state for that matter. That's about as arbitrary as saying that a coin's diameter or the day of the week when it was struck on is a factor in condition. Even JHR's quote as far as 'everything has a value' shouldn't have an effect on the coin's condition - I could show this coin and some nice ones to my 10-year-old daughter and I bet she'd be able to pick out the 'ugly' one. Not saying I wouldn't mind having that S-79; I do agree with JHR concerning 'the real issue'. S-79s in ANY condition are quite marketable. Shoot, there are only 5 to collect!" Tom agrees with Jack that condition should be the first thing you look at (or maybe, IS the first thing you look at.) First impression is everything. You can pretty much tell in less than a second if you like a coin or not, and condition is the main factor in that. Given a choice between a 1795 S-76b choice F15, or an XF40 sharpness with a patch of green corrosion in the field, what's the

first thing you see? Not the sharpness. Regardless, it's still an S-79 (wow!) even though it's scudzy." Curious what others' thoughts are on this topic.

Dan Demeo responded to Tom Deck. He checked with Bill Noyes regarding the S-79 in the Goldbergs' sale. He categorically denies the grade attributed to him in the catalogue and says he called Bob Grellman before the sale and complained about being quoted incorrectly without the number being verified. He says he called the coin 6 or 7 sharpness, net 4 average minus, and said that the obverse is scudzy, but the reverse is not as bad, so gave the coin an overall average minus condition rating. Dan personally agrees with Tom. If that coin had been a common variety, it would have been graded scudzy instantly. A rare case of Bill Noyes giving something the benefit of a doubt.

Alan Gorski also commented about the S-79 G+ "Average." He said before you attribute a coin you have, most likely, already formed an opinion as to its surface condition and grade (wear and detail). Alan agrees with Tom Deck's comments on the "Average" condition of the S-79. While the surface might be typical (or average) for all the known S-79s, all of which are somewhat scudzy, what happens if someone discovers an S-79 that really is "Average"—does it now become "Choice"? And then what if someone discovers a Choice S-79 do we then rate the appearance as "Proof"? Well, you know what Alan means. But since there are only five known to exist, in Alan's mind, they are all equally as rare, some just look nicer than the others. If the catalog listed the S-79 as scudzy, would it sell for less? Alan thinks not. "Oh what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive." (Sir Walter Scott 1771 - 1832.) Alan later added the following comments: Although subjective, it's usually much easier when both surfaces (obverse and reverse) are similar, whether they are porous, granular, smooth even wear, or choice. The dilemma is when the obverse is average, allows accurate attribution (one obverse one reverse variety), nice date, etc, and the reverse exhibits die swelling and is almost featureless. What do you do? If you're lucky enough to be at a major coin show (or EAC event) you can compare it with other examples of that variety and their respective prices. Most of us have minimum standards of what they would like their collection to look like. Others, Alan included, aren't that selective. In his mind an R4 is an R4 is an R4. The nice ones sell for a lot more. There are more Sheldon variety collectors than there are R4s. So to own an R4 is to own something special regardless of condition.

Tom Reynolds stated that when a collector is first attracted to early copper, it is usually due to working on a type set or date set. If the "copper bug" bites, the collector may go on to Red Book varieties or specialize in a given year. Or the collector may collect all the varieties of the Early Dates, Middle Dates or Late Dates. A small group of individuals may attempt the very difficult task of acquiring all 302 of the Sheldon numbered varieties (excluding NC's). It is Tom's pleasure to announce that Adam Mervis of Decatur, IL, and his son Alec, have joined this "small group" by recently purchasing an S-37. The collection was formed with the help and guidance of Greg Hannigan of Royal Palm Beach, FL. Congratulations to all three in completing this collection in a very short period of time!!!!

Bob Kebler reported on an auction of interesting half cents. Scotsman Coin held an auction in conjunction with the Silver Dollar and Rare Coin Expo in St. Louis, MO. As many of you know, there was an extensive run of half cents in this auction, with many rare varieties including both 1796's and an 1802 C1. The general consensus among those in attendance was that the coins, when viewed, had pretty high reserves/estimates. Of the 98 half cents in the sale, 34 sold for exactly the low estimate, 14 sold for less than the low estimate (although in most cases the

opening bid was just below the low estimate), 26 coins were sold for one increment above the low estimate, and 24 coins were sold at more than one increment above the low estimate (including 10 that went above the high estimate). These results are from Bob's notes, and he doesn't claim 100% accuracy, but they are close. Bob posts this as information for all of the half cent aficionados out there. The coins can be viewed on-line at scoins.com. He would also like to thank Rod Burress for letting him know about the sale- things like that are what makes EAC great! Bob recorded hammer prices. According to the prices realized on the website, a number of the lots did not sell.

Rob Yuell also reported on the Scotsman half cent auction. Out of the 98 half cents listed, 40 did not sell because the reserve was too high. He called Scotsman, and that is what they said. He wonders who the consigner was. Any ideas?

Tom Reynolds said that the Scotsman sale half cents were/are owned by Rob Weiner of Boston.

Scott Barrett wrote about the Scotsman auction that if you are seriously interested in some of the passed lots, contact the auctioneer and make an offer. This sort of thing goes on regularly at Sotheby's and Christie's. The auctioneer is the agent of the seller, hence has a legal obligation to convey your offer. Good luck.

Ken Casebeer updated Region 8 members by saying that he won an Edwards subsequent minting of a Bolen copy die of the Immanis Tyrannus/Confederatio pattern that he had sought in an earlier note. It was a lot from the Stack's Americana Auction with an excellent provenance, listed as an R6, and interestingly substantially less than two Bolen store cards with one side each from the pattern in subsequent lots. Thanks to those who corresponded to him about this matter.

Hugh Bodell is up to Quiz 65.

INQUIRING MINDS

Lloyd Hurt reported that he purchased a group of old foreign copper recently. Included in the group was a counter-stamped slug. When he finally got it in some good light he could see just enough of the outline of the head to determine it was (had been) a draped bust LC. The counter-stamp is Thomas Stevenson. If anyone has any information about this person or the uses of his counter-stamped coins, Lloyd would appreciate hearing from you. His email address is Bogeybear9@comcast.net.

Mark Borckardt responded to Lloyd Hurt by saying the name of Thomas Stevenson does not appear in Brunk's reference on counterstamps. The name is common enough that finding the right one will be difficult. A quick search at Ancestry.com revealed a large number of individuals by that name in each Federal Census:

1820 - 19
1830 - 26
1840 - 36
1850 - 147
1860 - 189
1870 - 261
1880 - 324

The large jump from 1840 to 1850 is simply explained. From 1790 to 1840, the individual census records only reported the head of households. Beginning in 1850, all family members were

reported. If you have any other details that might help narrow the search, such as a state or city, that would be extremely helpful.

James Rehmus requested information. He recently purchased a Fugio cent counterstamped 'PRINDLE' and has been tracking its history. In a dumb luck Internet search he made contact with an 11th US generation member of this family name whose first four U.S. generations lived in and around New Haven, CT. James can't guarantee the coin and the family are connected but the likelihood seems high. The c/s is apparently not listed in Brunk. Are there other numismatic or exonomia references to search? Have any of you seen other coins with this c/s? Other Fugio c/s of any type?

Kim Greeman asked if someone in Region 8 could tell her about *NumiStudy*. She has heard people refer to it as the "ultimate Large Cent whist for determining provenance and condition-census coins from a photo data base." Do Noyes numbers figure into this database? And who, what, when and where does she run across this product?

Jon Lusk answers Kim Greeman about *NumiStudy*:

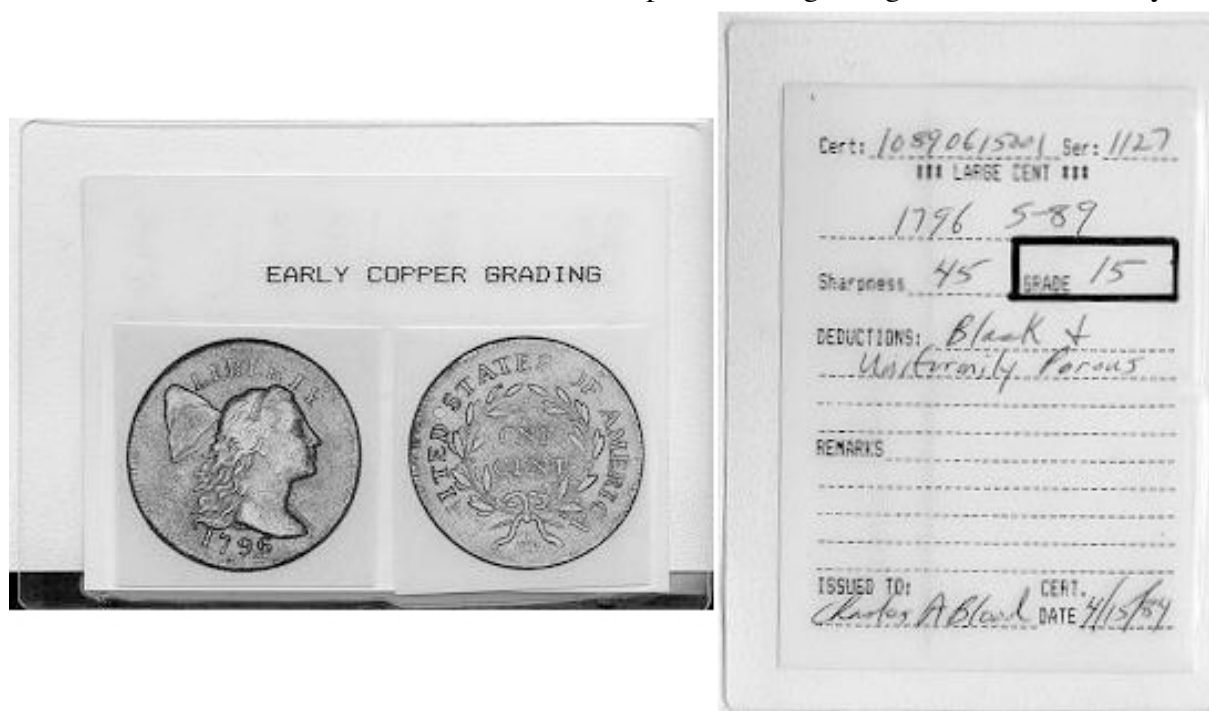
Sorry to have taken this long Kim, travel and pneumonia just aren't the excuse they use to be. There are two components to *NumiStudy*. The first is a program that manages images (displaying, measuring, overlaying, and help with attributing early copper). The second is a database of pictures Over 22,000 at last count spread across four databases - Sheldon and Newcomb large cents, half cents, and colonials. Most of the pictures are large cents. Bill Noyes has graded all of the large cents and Dan Demeo has done a fantastic job on the pedigrees of the large cents. Since the images can be ranked by grade, one can see the pictures in CC order and either place one's own coins within that order (if it hasn't been photographed by him) or see where he has placed/graded it. Please remember that this CC order is according to Noyes and you or someone else will probably have a different order in mind. Another item of note is that all pictures have been labeled with a five digit unique number and many auction houses have taken to using that ID when cataloging a coin. It's easy to just enter the number and see a picture of the coin along with an auction history (with prices realized and auction house assigned grades). It can make interesting reading to observe the same coin go through a number of auctions and have just about the same number of different grades! You can have the program *NumiStudy* without a database - but you'll need the program to use a database. You could "play" whist between different coin owners, but since current coin owners are not identified you might be restricted to "playing" it between historic owners of the coins or their collections and yourself. Hope this helps answer your questions, if not I can be reached at Jon@Lusk.cc

Ed Sweeney asked if there is any literature about the rarity/population of the early cent die states. Or has anyone attempted to make a guess on them? He has recently become fascinated with not just trying to get as many Sheldon numbers as possible, but also getting as many die states as possible.

Jack Conour stated that in a blog he saw the following reference to a grading service: "EAC (Early American Coppers) In 1984 and 1985 the Early American Coppers club formed a committee to grade half cents and large cents submitted by their members and others." Does anyone have the history or comments on it?

Denis Loring replied that the grading service was a short-lived effort by Del Bland, Jack Robinson and Denis. There were no slabs, just envelope inserts with the grade. It generated very little interest and was discontinued in fairly short order.

Michael Schmidt adds more on the former EAC Grading Service by saying that while this was in the era before slabs there was more than just an envelope insert. There was also a laminated photo certificate of the coin about the size of a driver's license that included B&W photos of the obverse and reverse on one side. On the back was a certificate number, a serial number, variety identification, sharpness and net grade, list of deductions, an area for remarks, who the certificate was issued to, and the date it was issued. There is a photograph of a 1796 S-89 Sharpness 45 Net 15 in my book on the grading services and all the holder varieties they have used. This WAS a grading service even though there were no slabs. Grading services were around for years before slabs were invented, and authentication services predate the grading services as well by some



seven years. If anyone has one of these certificates that they no longer need (coin has been sold, reholdered, etc.) Michael still needs one for his grading service reference collection.

Hank Abernathy attached a scan of a 1798 that was in his father's collection. It has never been attributed by anyone but Hank, and he wondered if someone would like to give him their opinion. The attached scan is not as sharp as the coin itself--Hank would grade it about F12. There is a mark on the obverse that almost looks like an errant pencil mark. Hank's attribution is S149.



Hugh Bodell responded to Hank Abernathy by saying that the coin sure looks like an S-149 to him. That coin lines up well in *CQR*--Hugh hopes Hank has one. But that coin has another kind of value--because it came down through family. Hugh only owns one coin that came down through family. It is an 1829 N-7 that took Hugh many years to admit was grainy. He upgraded it

with a different die state piece but is glad he decided to always keep the first one. Congratulations!



Jerry Karinsky stated that he just acquired this 1826 N-6. Checking in Newcomb, he has a regular N-6 and an N-6 3/4 that has a triple profile and is an R-5. This coin looks like a double profile. What do Region 8 members think? (No double profile listed in Newcomb). If it is a 6 3/4, any idea what is it worth? It is not listed in CQR.

Rick Beale asked regarding 1828 half cents. Breen's book lists the three varieties as R3, R1, and R2+, respectively. *CQR* lists them all as R1. Anyone know The Real Untold Story? What is the rarity of 28C1, 28C2, and 28C3?

Stu Schrier wrote in reply to Rick Beale's questions about the rarity of 1828 Half Cents: The C-3 is most common, the C-1 is common and the C-2 is readily available. Stu could easily supply Rick with 20 of each variety graded between G and EF. The C-1 and C-2 are available but at higher prices in AU and UNC. Stu's unscientific answer is that if you looked at 20 PCGS or NGC slabs of 1828 13 star MS-63 you would find 18 C-3 and 2 C-1. In addition, the commercially graded MS-63 13 star coins will have more of the C-1 with carbon spots, stains, or unattractive toning. The C-3 is clearly a hoard coin and readily available even in UNC. All three varieties are R1 in Stu's opinion.

Bill Eckberg did a statistical analysis of half cent survivorship that was published in a series of articles in *Penny-Wise* 9-10 years ago. One of the findings was that all three varieties of 1828 half cents are quite common in circulated grades, hence the revision to the rarity ratings. Bill has no idea why they were ever thought scarce, other than that C2 and, particularly, C1 are both very tough to find in UNC, whereas C3 is a hoard variety and so much more common in UNC.

Bill Eckberg said he was offered (and declined) the Head of '95 in the photos below. He asked members to provide their opinion of the sharpness and net grades. Bill would report the opinions (anonymously, unless one wished otherwise) and let everyone know the PCGS grade on this coin.

Bill reported the results of the grade quiz as follows:

"It's always interesting and instructive to get estimates of grades, and by extension values, of the same coin from multiple EAC members. Grade comments on the Head of '95 S-71 pictured last week demonstrate once again



- in case any further proof was needed - that grading is an art, not a science, and that grading opinions of respected specialists can vary. Generally, the opinions fell into two camps based on the perceived deductions for the obverse corrosion: those less bothered by it tended to net grade the coin in the 25-30 range; those more bothered tended to net grade the coin in the 12-15 range. These ranges are pretty tight in my opinion, despite the fact that this exercise required grading a less-than-ideal photo of a coin in a slab, so congratulations on your skill. This is a good thing, as it means that most who responded have pretty reasonable and consistent grading standards. To

the extent that grade = price, value estimates (per *CQR*) from our members varied over a 6-fold range, which is a LOT, though the highest estimates were only about 60% of the price at which the coin was offered to me. Guesses of PCGS's assigned grade ranged from 58-35 (some of you have more faith in PCGS than I have). To repeat, it's very difficult to grade from photographs or in slabs and harder yet to grade from photos of coins in slabs, but here are some personal opinions and comments."

Mark Borckardt (grades copper for Heritage auctions): sharpness 40, net 25; PCGS AU53.

Harry Salyards: 40 net 30.

Brad Viets: net 25.

Tom Hart: VF 30 net 20 for rough spots and marks. PCGS 35.

Dennis Fuoss: I am going to guess that this coin is graded AU55 by PCGS. They seem to be turning a blind eye toward corrosion these days. Not sure why.

Bob Kebler: I would grade this VF25, net F15.

Frank Wilkinson: The S-71 has the sharpness of a 35. Other than the corrosion pits on/near the cap, it would be choice. Since the corrosion spots cannot be removed, it cannot be graded higher than a 15 or so. I can imagine that some rich/powerful person had it graded circa 62.

Stu Schrier: VF30.

Tom Deck: PCGS AU58.

Bob Grellman (grades copper for Goldberg auctions): I hate to grade from photos, especially head of 1795 cents. They have such shallow obverse details to begin with that grading really demands seeing the coin. Nonetheless, I would say VF25-30.

Peter Mosiondz: 45 net 30.

For the record, PCGS slabbed it as AU58. Many thanks to all who shared their opinions. This kind of exercise is valuable for us all to help us sharpen our grading skills.

John Dabbert wrote that he looked at a coin on eBay and tried to attribute it. Anyone else see it and have any opinions? Fake? John provided the item number.

John Wright replied it was a genuine coin from the US Mint. Coin is an 1827 N4, stripped & re-toned. After reviewing the posted notes on this eBay lot, John noted the Chinese-sounding seller-name, so he can understand someone's concern. He has studied it MUCH more carefully, and the coin still looks to him to be a genuine (stripped & re-toned) 1827 N4 cent. The strong doubling on IBE is as found on 27N4 - see the Noyes photos. Nothing else disagrees markedly with either die of 27N4. If this *IS* a Chinese counterfeit, it would be a class 3- very deceptive. To John it's real, not counterfeit. He posted a note to the seller.

And **John Dabbert** replied that he was too quick to judge. The Noyes book does mention the redoubling in the text but not on the picture of the coin of the N-4. Thus John thought the N-4 didn't show the doubling of the IBER like other varieties.

* * * * *

SWAPS AND SALES

EACers are invited to submit their ads for inclusion in this column. Ads up to twelve lines are free. ADS LARGER THAN 12 LINES MUST BE SUBMITTED CAMERA-READY, AND PAID IN ADVANCE. A full-page ad is \$150. Graphic and halftone setup is an *additional* \$60 per page. One-half page is \$75. One-third page is \$50. Ads should be limited to early American Coppers or tokens. Deadline for material to appear in the January 2011 issue is December 31, 2010. All ads must include the individual membership number of a current member in good standing. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Harry E. Salyards, 606 North Minnesota Avenue, Hastings, NE 68901.

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1797	S-120b. VG (8). Rather nice medium brown.	\$275.
1797	S-125. Good (5). Fine detail but some roughness. Sort of nice olive-brown.	\$550.
1797	S-133. Good (4). Better detail but some marks and stains. OK brown.	\$175.
1797	S-153. VG (7). Nice enough dark brown; cud at bust.	\$190.
1798	S-156. Basal State (1). Smooth brown; heavily worn; positive ID.	\$225.
1798	S-173. VG (10) if not a “12.” Nice brown; rare early cud at RTY; cud smaller than what is typically seen. R6+ die state.	\$350.
1798	S-183. Good (4). Fine sharpness but some old obv. pits & scratches. OK brown.	\$350.
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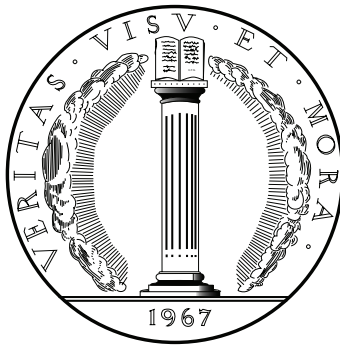
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1810 Sheldon 282 Full Obverse Brockage
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